



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-230
Tuesday
1 December 1987

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FBIS-NES-87-230

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LD011415 [Editorial Report]

Iran-France

The Iranian Foreign Ministry stated that the exchange of French Consul Paul Torri for Iranian Embassy employee Vahid Gorji is linked to a "normalization" of relations between the two countries and has resulted in a lifting of the mutual embassy siege. The statement, which was reported by Tehran radio, added that "recent steps" played a "positive role" in starting the normalization process and "can be effective" in implementing Iran's "legitimate demands." In this regard, a "speedy and decisive solution" of the issue of French debts to Iran can help return bilateral relations to a "satisfactory" level, the Foreign Ministry asserted.

In related comment, Iranian Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri told IRNA that the way has now been paved for a resumption of relations, albeit at a "desirable" level. France showed its desire to mend fences with Iran in messages delivered through various channels before the Torri-Gorji exchange, he said, and "agreements have already been reached through negotiations about resolving the embassies dispute as well as financial issues." However, a Tehran radio commentary warned that France's continuing military support for Iraq is "intolerable" for the Iranian nation and will have a "decisive, negative effect" on the trend of improving bilateral relations. Any delay or procrastination in repaying the French debt to Iran will likewise call into question France's sincerity, the radio added. The commentary strongly denied "propaganda" linking the normalization of French-Iranian relations with the release of French hostages in Lebanon, emphasizing that there is "no connection" between the two issues.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes raided Iranian power stations near Tangivar and Hamadan 30 November. IRNA acknowledged that Iraqi planes raided a "civilian" target in Hamadan, adding that another Iraqi aircraft was "repelled" by antiaircraft fire over Tehran Province. Iranian aircraft bombed "petrochemical installations" in the Iraqi city of Al-Mawasil the same day, according to a spokesman cited by IRNA. Denying Iraqi claims that the attack targeted residential areas, the spokesman said the Iranian pilots took photographs of the bombed installations which were enveloped in flames and smoke. An Iraqi spokesman, in contrast, told INA that the petrochemical installations referred to by Iran do not exist, and he said the two Iranian planes strafed houses, killing one civilian and wounding two others. Iranian artillery also shelled villages in northern Iraq, killing two people and wounding seven, according to an Iraqi communique carried by Baghdad radio.

Iranian jets launched another raid on Iraqi targets 1 December, hitting troop concentrations and fortifications in the central and northern sectors, according to IRNA.

Iraqi-Jordanian Talks

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn welcomed Jordanian King Husayn to Baghdad for talks during which they discussed their countries' "close brotherly relations," implementation of the decisions of the Amman "summit of reconciliation and accord," Iranian "aggression," and the "high state of readiness," Baghdad radio reported. Amman television added that the talks fell "within the framework of coordination and consultations."

Afghanistan

In discussion with Afghanistan's "Soviet friends," it was decided that the Soviet withdrawal will take place "within a time not longer than 12 months," thus shortening by 4 months the timetable previously proposed in Geneva, PDPA General Secretary Najibullah announced in a speech to the Grand Assembly carried by Kabul radio. Najibullah declared that the Afghan side will present this proposal at the upcoming Geneva talks which he hoped would be the "final round." The Afghan leader added that the period of withdrawal can be further reduced provided that the seven-party rebel alliance agrees to honor the government's commitment to a 6-month extension of the cease-fire through 20 July 1988 and to "guarantee nonresumption of combat operations." While urging the opposition "not to create obstacles in the way of national reconciliation," Najibullah reiterated that the government's guarantees include good will for "friendly relations" with all political forces and "peaceful dialogue" toward compromise solutions as well as the creation of a coalition administration and the "democratic election" of a national council.

Earlier in the session, the Grand Assembly voted to approve the draft constitution, Kabul radio reported. In line with provisions of the new basic law, Najibullah was elected president of the Republic of Afghanistan and was sworn in, *Bakhtar* noted.

Syria

Al-Asad in Romania—President Hafiz al-Asad was welcomed to Bucharest by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, Damascus radio reported, adding that the two leaders discussed "international and Mideast developments as well as bilateral relations." In a banquet speech carried by Damascus television, Al-Asad held Israel responsible for the continuing "explosive situation" in the Middle East, and he reiterated Syria's support for an international conference. On the subject of Lebanon, Al-Asad declared that Syria "approaches with an open mind" all proposals toward achieving Lebanese reconciliation and toward safeguarding that country's territorial integrity.

Israeli Attack Warning—Officials at the Syrian Embassy in Paris stated that an Israeli strike on Syria or on its forces in Lebanon is "expected any minute," the Israeli paper *Yedi'ot Aharonot* reported. The officials confirmed that Syria has placed its forces on alert since the 25 November PFLP-GC operation in northern Israel.

Israel

Comment on PFLP-GC Attack—Jerusalem radio's Arabic service asserted that the PFLP-GC attack in Israel "unveiled" Syria's role of "godfather" to international terrorism, adding that PFLP-GC members receive training at military bases near Damascus. In remarks to journalists broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said it is not important to decide whether Syria was directly responsible for the PFLP-GC attack as Syria clearly "identifies itself with these activities" and "this is enough." In parts of the same address carried by IDF radio, Shamir also deplored the praise for the PFLP-GC operation expressed throughout the Arab world, including the Egyptian media, whose "negative tone" has long caused Israel concern. The attack was the subject of a Knesset debate during which Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stressed that Israel is still living

under the threat of war and must remain strong to persuade the Arabs they will attain nothing by violence, according to remarks broadcast by Jerusalem television.

Greek Visitor—Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told visiting Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias that Greece's good relations with the Arab world are an "advantage" for Israel in its search for peace with the Arab countries, Jerusalem radio reported. Papoulias is the first Greek foreign minister to visit Israel, the radio noted.

Egypt

According to "informed sources in Cairo" cited by *Al-Safir*, Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir denied accusations that he has any links to the Egypt's Revolution organization. The son of the late Egyptian leader was recently summoned for questioning after he was implicated by one of the defendants held on charges of attacking U.S. and Israeli interests.

Turkey

In the 29 November elections, the ruling ANAP won 292 of 450 seats in the Grand National Assembly, according to "unofficial final results" broadcast by Ankara radio. The party won 36.29 percent of the total valid votes cast.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egypt, Jordan To Study Joint Force Plan *NC300759 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon* *in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] Informed sources in Cairo disclosed yesterday that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn had reached agreement during Mubarak's recent visit to Amman to begin an immediate study of a plan to establish a joint military command in coordination with the GCC countries. This joint command will be tasked with preparing a military plan to confront any danger threatening the Gulf countries' safety and sovereignty. According to these sources, the joint Egyptian-Jordanian plan envisages the use of a 15,000-man force to be formed of Jordanian officers and men working in the Gulf states while the Egyptian side would provide the rest of the plan's manpower requirements. The GCC countries would finance the plan throughout its preparation and implementation phases.

Arabsat Begins Leases to Private Groups *JN291527 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic* *29 Nov 87 pp 1, 22*

[Text] Tunis—The Arab Satellite Telecommunications Organization, Arabsat, has begun to implement the first step in the exploitation and use of the Arab satellite network by private organizations in Arab and Muslim countries. In an official memorandum to the Arab ministers of information and communications, Arabsat said it has leased six channels for television transmission to the Arab Satellite Television Company in Tunis for an initial payment of \$50,000, which Arabsat has received. Arabsat's revenues from leasing these channels to the company are expected to reach \$10 million annually.

The Arab Satellite Television Company will make use of the television transmission channels by leasing them to Arab television authorities. Agreement will be reached with the television authorities of Arab countries on the use of the channels to transmit integrated entertainment, educational, and information programs.

The implementation of the abovementioned step is part of the resolution adopted by Arabsat's General Assembly. The resolution approves the principle of allowing private subscribers in Arab and Muslim countries to use the Arab satellite network and authorizes Arabsat's Board of Directors to decide on applications it receives in that regard.

Palestinian Affairs

Reportage on Qiryat Shemona Glider Attack

PFLP-GC Statement *JN271910 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic* *1745 GMT 27 Nov 87*

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In a new statement, the PFLP-GC has described last Wednesday's fedayeen operation in northern Israel. It says that the two fedayeen who returned safely

reported that the fedayeen formation of four men arrived at the battle area on time and landed in sectors surrounding the camp. The formation was then divided into two groups: a storm group and a cover group. At the fixed time, the storming operation began. The cover group hurled bombs at tents and sleeping quarters. The Israelis were so surprised they could not exchange fire with the group for 15 minutes during which the fedayeen wreaked destruction throughout the camp.

The PFLP-GC reports that the battle lasted for 90 minutes, during which one fedayeen, a Syrian, was martyred. The Israelis brought in assistance from outside the camp; the sky above the battlefield was covered with helicopters and flares. The three remaining fedayeen returned to their gliders and began their flight home. On their way back and over the Halta Mountains in southern Lebanon, a plane flown by one of them, a Tunisian, was hit and he was forced to land. On Thursday morning, this fighter clashed with the airborne force [quwwah mujawqalah] that was searching the area and inflicted casualties on its personnel before facing martyrdom.

The two fedayeen who returned safely said it was possible to inflict hundreds of casualties among the civilians in the Al-Khalisah [Qiryat Shemona], Kefar Gifadi, and Kefar Yuval settlements. However, their adherence to instructions to attack only the military center prevented them from attacking these settlements, especially since these settlements were under their control from the air.

The PFLP-GC distributed pictures of the fedayeen and a letter which the four fedayeen sent to Arab Presidents Hafiz al-Asad, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, Chadli Bendjedid, and Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, as well as [former PNC Speaker] Khalid al-Fahum. In the letter they said their action was part of the decision to escalate armed struggle as an answer to the line of deviation, the capitulation projects, and the attempts to expand the Camp David policy in the region. They demanded the revival of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

PFLP-GC sources have denied reports that this operation was scheduled to take place during the Amman summit and asserted that the operation was carried out on schedule in terms of planning, preparation, and timing.

Letter Sent to Leaders

JN272148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] The heroes of the Qibyah martyrs operation sent a message of greetings to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad; Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution; Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid; PDRY Chairman Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas; and [former] PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum before launching their operation. The following is the text of the message:

At a time when the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy against the present and future of our nation gains momentum and when the forces of Arab reaction accelerate their efforts to enhance their political, economic, and military capabilities to move closer toward the Camp David accords with the aim of spreading them and imposing them as the sole political option—something which coincides with the situation threatening our Palestinian people's question and their armed national revolution caused by the pursuit of the course of deviation and capitulation—we, the four PFLP-GC combatants who belong to the martyred pilot Abu 'Ammar Adham group, have sworn to carry out the Qibyah martyrs operation in northern Palestine.

We are aware that the assault spirit which moves within us and the decision to fight and confront is inspired by the bright firebrand which gave life to the revolutions of your peoples in Syria, the Jamahiriyyah, Algeria, Aden, and Palestine. It is the same will that scored all of your victories in the battles waged against the forces of tyranny and aggression and against the forces of agentry and capitulation. We are certain that this decision is a logical consequence and an extension of the decision to popularly and revolutionarily confront the course pursued by the Arab and Palestinian right. It is the decision that has brought about the unity of Arab blood and the unity of Arab confrontation.

Our contemporary Arab revolution is in pressing need of an embodiment of all this by reviving the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to serve as a response to the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy and a practical reply to the other inter-Arab alliance that is making its rhythms, which have various forms, move in harmony with the official Arab capitulation plan in accordance with the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Zionist treaty.

We are fighters from Syria, Tunisia, and Palestine. We wanted to refrain from specifying our nationalities. We have done this to refute the claims of the one who is trading with independent decisionmaking, the one who makes the regional stand outweigh the pan-Arab stand, and the stands of the one who makes the secessionist stand outweigh the unionist stand. Palestine is the destination of all honorable Arabs and victory there will be the only outcome of Arab resistance, Arab heroism, and Arab history. We are upholding the banner of pan-Arab armed struggle.

This has been manifested in all uprisings and revolutions staged by our kinfolk in Damascus, Tripoli, Algeria, Aden, Palestine, and in each village and city where the banners of national struggle against the occupier and the exploiter were hoisted. We are certain, while we are en route to clash with the enemy, that this banner will achieve loftier skies with you and that this clash will be stronger with your continued support for it to foil the conspiracy of humiliation and deviation and also to safeguard the pan-Arab plan for the liberation of Palestine.

You and your peoples were the guarantee for protecting our existence and maintaining the purity of our struggle. We are certain that this strong and great guarantee will continue to exist to forge a strategic cohesion that will create a glory to be recorded in the annals of history. Revolution until the land and the individuals are liberated!

Damascus Notes Statement

JN300846 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Damascus—The PFLP-GC has reiterated that the Qibyah operation heroes have proven beyond doubt that the Palestinian fighters can, in light of their revolutionary belief, destroy the alleged legend of Zionist security. In a statement issued yesterday on the Qibyah martyrs operation, the PFLP-GC also reiterated that this operation confirms that the struggle with the Zionists cannot but be an Arab, national, and unified struggle. The operation embodied the legality of escalating the conflict with imperialism and Zionism on the grounds that armed struggle is the basic and major road to liberate the territory and to triumph over the great plot perpetrated by the United States and the Zionist enemy.

The PFLP-GC statement notes that the Qibyah operation has proven that preserving the PLO as a historical achievement of the people's struggle can only be achieved on the basis of escalating armed struggle and toppling the course of deviation and capitulation.

Concluding its statement the PFLP-GC said that the Qibyah martyrs operation has confirmed that the confrontation with the Zionist enemy calls for a solid Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian alliance because this alliance is the basic means to defeat the American-Zionist conspiracy.

Attack Said 'Reply' to Summit

JN301002 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The PFLP-GC, which carried out the fedayeen operation in the Galilee, said in a statement issued in Damascus yesterday that this operation confirmed that the security zones Israel is setting up in southern Lebanon are vulnerable and that armed struggle is the only way to liberate the occupied territories and foil the U.S. and Zionist plans. The PFLP-GC statement stressed that the operation was an appropriate reply to the U.S. onslaught and the recent Amman summit. It also criticized PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his policy, which it described as deviationist and running after U.S. solutions.

'Arafat on 'Military Option' Against Israel
LD282337: Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1700 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by an unidentified radio correspondent on the 40th anniversary of the partition of Palestine; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] From 29 November 1947 to 29 November 1987: Forty years have passed since the international plot against the Palestinian people and homeland, which ended with the Palestine partition resolution. How do you, the commander of the revolution and Palestinian leader, Yasir 'Arafat, view this day, what are your expectations, and what do you want from the world beyond lip service and solidarity?

['Arafat] We, the Palestinian groups, individuals, organizations, trade unions and federations, women, children, elderly, and men recall that day with pain and agony. This does not mean the pain of submission, but the pain of determination to see the Palestinians' rights triumph. No right sought by a claimant can ever be lost. We still remember this plot, which began with the partitioning of Palestine as a result of this ill-omened resolution adopted by a majority of one vote. It was, however, part of a comprehensive plot in which Great Britain and the European countries participated, with the support of the U.S. Government, unjustly and wrongly. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian people have been struggling against this Zionist-imperialist plot since 1917, when the ill-omened Balfour Declaration was issued against the interests of the Palestinians. Four generations of our people have passed since then, with each generation handing the flag to the next generation. The latest Palestinian revolution took place in 1965. I say the latest because the Palestinian revolutions have not waned since 1917. Our people staged their latest revolution in 1965 and it is still continuing. This is the longest revolution ever staged by our people, having continued for 22 years. It is also the longest revolution in modern times, compared to the Algerian revolution, the Lebanese revolution, the revolutions of the African people, and the revolutions in Latin America. It is thus the longest revolution in modern times. [passage omitted]

The Palestine question has taken its place once more on the UN agenda as a principal Middle East issue. The commemoration of this day, 29 November, the anniversary of the doomed Palestine partition resolution, by our friends around the world constitutes a recognition by these countries of the crime and catastrophe caused by this resolution. Placing Palestine once more on the UN agenda would not have occurred had it not been for the Palestinian gar, Palestinian revolutionaries, and the sacrifices by Palestinian fighters on all levels in various areas. I say this proudly so everyone knows that the

willpower of the Palestinian people will never be vanquished, for it is the will of God. [passage indistinct] [Correspondent] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], this leads us to what you told journalists several times after the Arab emergency summit in Amman, that any nation that loses its military option will be cursed by history and will be finished. In light of this, would you comment on the heroic military operation that took place 2 days ago, the continuous military operations in the occupied territories, and the future of Palestinian action inside the occupied territories and southern Lebanon?

['Arafat] You know we adopted a decision at the latest (national meeting) and this is to escalate struggle to resist Israeli occupation. What is happening now—whether this heroic operation by the glider pilot or the heroic operations taking place throughout our occupied territories from Gaza, from the Negev, [name indistinct], Jerusalem, Nablus, Nanin, to Tel Aviv, Haifa, the Galilee and southern Lebanon—shows this determination and will based on the decision conceived and approved by our Palestinian National Council to escalate actions against Israeli occupation. These operations show that nothing is impossible before the [word indistinct] fighter, not the radar, not the computer, and not the warning equipment. There is a Palestinian decision that is being implemented by the Palestinian fighter, by the Palestinian woman, and the Palestinian child, the sons of the RPG and the sons of the stone.

I have said here that any nation that loses the military option does not deserve to live. I have said this to my brothers, the Arab leaders, telling them: We decided to continue our struggle until the flag (flies) over Jerusalem, God willing. Based on this, I decided, and I have been helped in this [word indistinct] the brothers, the Arab leaders who are eager for Arab unity on Palestine. It is not a coincidence that despite all the attempts by some, who are few, that [word indistinct] on the Palestinian stance, and that no Palestinian resolution is issued in the conference summit, but I say that these brothers, the Arab leaders, have helped us with their firm stance at the side of the Palestinian delegation. These resolutions have been issued to support the struggle and back the Palestinian revolutionaries, fighters, and people in Palestine and in southern Lebanon with every means of support.

The important thing is to continue building up force until we reach a strategic military balance with the Israeli enemy. This is a very important point and means that what some people have tried to do has failed; the resolutions have been issued with clarity. This regards the preparation and preparedness for duty that our Arab nation must assume and the support for the Palestinian people and the commitment and determination to and affirmation of the Arab summit's resolutions on Palestine. This also specifically pertains to the Fes summit, in

which the resolutions mentioned achieving the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with the Arab summits and the Fes summit of 1982.

I want to remind you that the resolutions of the Arab summits in Rabat and Algiers say that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Fes summit noted their right to return and their right to self-determination and to create an independent Palestinian state, the capital of which is holy Jerusalem, under PLO leadership. This is not the only thing, we have also insisted that it be based on international legitimacy and on all the UN resolutions, such as Resolution 3237, which stipulates the achievement of the inalienable rights, including the right to return, self-determination, and an independent state.

I say these things because there are attempts by some to darken these resolutions. But with determination from Arab leaders, and despite attempts by a few, which have failed in the face of this firm Arab stance, our nation has been able to issue these brilliant resolutions to support the Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian cause and advance it.

[Correspondent] Now I would like to move on to the question of northern Palestine—Galilee, where Rabin stood in front of his dead and wounded to rant and rave furiously, as the foreign journalists have described it. He said: Yasir is here in Galilee. We shall see Yasir. Naturally, these are threats. How does the Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat view these threats by Rabin?

['Arafat] He previously stood up when his soldiers were hit in Jerusalem—the military detachment that was hit in Jerusalem—and when the intelligence officer was killed in Gaza and when the Palestinian fighters clashed in northern Gaza with an IDF unit. This Palestinian force continued to fight to the death, to the last man. It inflicted casualties on the Israeli side many times the number of those on the Palestinian side. After each operation he says these words. Before him, Sharon once stood along with Begin to say: No war after today. Galilee will see 40 years of peace. The Katyusha rockets returned and the fedayeen operations returned. I would say to him: This is Palestinian resolve; Palestinian resolve will continue until victory.

We know that we are not on a picnic with them; it is a battle. He has threatened us with raids and with suppression and the seizure of land. He actually carries these threats out. Israeli prisons are full of Palestinian heroes, including children and women. According to a UN report, so far 270,000 cases of detention, POW's, imprisonment, and interrogation have been investigated: 270,000. This is not my figure, this is the UN figure. What did all this produce? It produced greater Palestinian resolve for victory.

DFLP's Hawatimah Sends Solidarity Day Message

JN291332 Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Today is World Solidarity With the Palestinian People Day. On this occasion, DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah addressed a message to the Palestinian people in which he emphasized the efforts and sacrifices made throughout the past 40 years. Hawatimah called for efforts to halt the continuing coordination between Jordan and Israel in the occupied territory to impose the plan for the sharing of functions.

Hawatimah also called for the implementation of the 11 September agreement between Amal and the Palestinians to end the camps war in Lebanon. He emphasized the need to maintain and strengthen the PLO's relations with Syria and Algeria and the other parties that are standing fast, as well as the Soviet Union, to defeat the enemy alliance and achieve the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Reportage on Anti-Israeli Combat Operations

Sanaa VOP Details Attacks

JN271944 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] The Palestinian Revolution Forces have claimed responsibility for the killing of two Zionists whose bodies were found yesterday in one of the quarters of occupied Jerusalem. The Palestinian military spokesman said that our revolutionaries, who belong to the martyr Munthir Abu Ghazalah unit, attacked the manager of a store belonging to the Zionist enemy in the heart of Jerusalem and the Zionist officer in charge of store security. They killed them with knives and seized the officer's personal weapon.

The spokesman added that other enemy personnel were either killed or wounded when a bomb exploded in a Zionist intelligence office on Hertzog Street in occupied Jerusalem. The bomb was put there by our revolutionaries who belong to a special unit of the martyr Abu Hasan Salamah group.

In a statement distributed by Wafa in Tunis yesterday, the spokesman added that in the wake of the two operations, the occupation forces set up a number of roadblocks throughout Jerusalem. The occupation forces also increased their patrols and arrested dozens of Palestinian citizens in connection with the two operations. Our revolutionaries succeeded in returning to base safely.

Military Bus Station Bombed

*JN282014 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Nov 87*

[Communique issued by a military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] In the past hours, our revolutionaries' heroic operations against enemy military targets constituted a painful blow to all of the Zionist enemy's security apparatuses and to all the measures they have undertaken on our occupied homeland to confront the escalating Palestinian military action. At 1315 on 26 November 1987, a time bomb exploded inside a military bus station in the heart of Petah Tiqwa while the station was crowded with enemy soldiers. The time bomb was planted by our revolutionaries from the martyr Intisar al-'Attar group. The station was destroyed and several enemy soldiers were wounded as a result. Ambulances were seen evacuating the wounded.

Immediately after the operation, Zionist security forces carried out a large-scale search operation covering several streets and bus stations in search of other bombs. Our heroes returned safely to their bases.

Attacks on Patrols Detailed

*JN282002 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1812 GMT 28 Nov 87*

[Communique issued by a military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] Acting on instructions, one of the groups operating inside the occupied homeland launched a swift surprise attack on a Zionist military unit on patrol in the Al-'Azzah camp, Bethlehem. As a result of this attack, in which our fighters used hand grenades and incendiary bombs, several enemy soldiers were killed or wounded and one Zionist patrol vehicle was burned. Having carried out their operation, our fighters withdrew safely to base.

The Zionist enemy radio reported this incident, but it did not mention enemy losses. It simply said the occupation forces surrounded the scene and mounted a search campaign in the camp during which it detained several of our Palestinian people on the pretext of complicity in the operation. Revolution until victory!

Our heroic fighters in the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist military patrol with hand grenades and incendiary bombs while it was passing through Jabaliyah camp in occupied Gaza. As a result of this attack, several enemy soldiers were killed or wounded. During the ensuing panic and confusion among the enemy soldiers, our fighters succeeded in withdrawing safely to base.

The enemy radio also reported this operation; however, as usual, it failed to mention enemy losses. It simply said Zionist occupation forces carried out large-scale arrests among Palestinian citizens on the pretext of an investigation. Revolution until victory!

OPEC Affairs

OAPEC Oil Ministers Convene in Kuwait

'Spending Cuts' on Agenda

*LD281101 Kuwait KUNA in English 1036 GMT
28 Nov 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 28 (KUNA)—The Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) opened its year-end ministerial conference to discuss budgetary and organizational matters, with six of the organization's nine members represented by their oil ministers and the remaining three by delegates.

Chairman of the conference, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali Al-Khalifa al-Adbi delivered the inaugural speech and then participants were addressed by acting OAPEC Secretary General 'Abd al-'Aziz Watari.

OAPEC's ministerial council will, among other things, discuss a committee report which drew the broadline for the group's action plans for the coming years with special emphasis on spending cuts.

OAPEC's 1988 budget is estimated at 1.5 million Kuwaiti dinars [KD] (roughly five million dollars) with a drop of about KD 500,000 from the current budget.

Relations with international economic bodies, including the European Community, will also be discussed.

OAPEC is not involved in oil pricing and production policies.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq are participating in the meeting at a ministerial level. Syria, Libya, and Algeria delegated less ranking officials.

Meeting Ends; Statement Issued

*LD281456 Kuwait KUNA in English 1341 GMT
28 Nov 87*

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 28 (KUNA)—The ministerial council of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) today ended here its meetings by adopting the organisation's budget of KD 1.3 million (about 5 million U.S. dollars) for the year 1988.

An OAPEC press release at the closing of the organization's bi-annual ordinary conference said the ministerial council decided that 'Abd al-'Aziz Watari continues to act as OAPEC's secretary general and exercise all powers of former Secretary Dr 'Ali Attiqa who has resigned the post.

It praised the role played by acting Secretary General Watari in the oil field both before and after joining the OAPEC and thanked former Secretary Dr 'Ali Attiqa.

The council further endorsed recommendations included in the report of a committee set up by the previous conference under Kuwaiti Oil Minister and current council chairman Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa.

These, the release said, contained recommendations to maintain effective performance of the organization while cutting back expenses such that member states can meet their obligations towards OAPEC's budget.

The council approved budgets of the organization's judicial panel (KD 150,000) and the Baghdad-based Arab Oil Training Institute (1.026 million Iraqi dinars in addition to 0.6 million U.S. dollars for its development plan).

A report by OAPEC's Secretariat on aspects of technical cooperation between the organization and the European Economic Community was reviewed and the Secretariat was directed to continue its work in the way serving interests of OAPEC member-states.

The release appealed on countries with delayed arrears to pay them to the organization's budget and said the council has decided to hold its next bi-annual conferences during 1988 in Kuwait coming May and December.

Iraqi Oil Minister Views Baghdad Demands
*LD281053 Kuwait KUNA in English 0917 GMT
28 Nov 87*

[By Shamel Khairi]

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 28 (KUNA)—Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim Saturday suggested that OPEC raise its overall oil production by one million barrels per day and he discounted the possibility of the organization raising its crude price.

The minister, in an interview with KUNA, reiterated Baghdad's pledge not to commit itself to an OPEC quota-sharing formula unless Iraq was given a production share equal to that allotted to Iran.

Iraq's condition to that effect set last July is still valid, he said, pointing out that when ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meet in Vienna next month Iraq will renew its demand that it should be allowed to produce as much as Iran does.

Since last December Iraq has refused to abide by OPEC's production agreements under which Iraq was given a share of 1.5 million barrels per day while Iran was to produce 2.4 million barrels.

Iraq argued then that giving Iran a bigger share was tantamount to supporting Iran in the war raging between the two OPEC members. Baghdad also said its share was unfair given the country's production potential.

The OPEC ministerial conference, planned to open in Vienna on December 9, is expected to re-distribute individual production quotas against the background of international demand.

The Iraqi oil minister, who is in Kuwait to attend a ministerial conference Saturday for OPEC's Arab twin, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), put his country's oil production in October at 2.750 million b/d [barrels per day].

On efforts by some OPEC members to raise the organization benchmark price from 18 dollars to 20 dollars per barrel, he said "it must seem obvious to all (members) that official prices cannot be raised from the current level."

Oil pricing must be discussed in the forthcoming OPEC meeting in view of international output and current price levels on the world market, he said.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim emphasized: "We support maintaining the current price level at 18 dollars per barrel for the coming period."

When OPEC ministers met in Vienna last July they agreed to hold to this price till the end of the year.

On production, he told KUNA that the current OPEC output ceiling of 16.6 million b/d should be raised to meet the organization's virtual production which he said goes far above that ceiling "a realistic (production) rise of about one million b/d could be acceptable," he said.

The minister would not quantify OPEC's excess production and said press reports speculating figures of production ceiling violations were conflicting and exaggerated.

Chad

Communique on 28 Nov Clash With Islamic Legion
AB301919 Ndjamea Domestic Service in French
1847 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Communique No 98 issued by the FANT High Command on 30 November in Ndjamea]

[Text] Despite the successive, crushing defeats inflicted on the Libyan mercenaries at (Ajer Marfayin) and (Ap-tanduta) [words indistinct] of Sidra tries in vain to enable the Islamic Legion to penetrate Chad from Sudanese territory. On Saturday, 28 November 1987, the FANT intercepted a column of the Islamic Legion that had attempted to cross the Chad-Sudan border at Gaya, in the Goz Beida region. Here is the outcome of this encounter:

On the enemy side: 14 killed; several persons wounded; 3 prisoners of war captured; several light weapons recovered, including 2 Soviet RTK heavy submachineguns.

On the FANT side: We regret the loss of one martyr who fell gloriously on the battlefield.

Despite the repeated warnings, Sudan continues to give a helping hand to the [word indistinct] criminal by allowing him to use its territory to attack Chad. The FANT will henceforth reserve the right to pursue the attackers, wherever they may come from.

Libyans Overfly Zouar, Bardai

AB301951 Ndjamea Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Paralleling its activities on the ground, the barbaric regime of Tripoli [words indistinct] its air offensives since yesterday. In fact, the Libyan Air Force flew over the locality of Zouar yesterday at 1930. This morning at 0100, it was Bardai's turn to be overflown.

Habre Interviewed on Libya Conflict, OAU

AB271934 Abidjan I.D. in French 29 Nov 87 pp 4-12

[Interview with President Hissein Habre by Mariam C. Diallo in Ndjamea on 9 November—first paragraph is I.D. introduction]

[Text] The man who spoke with us on the morning of 9 November at the presidential palace was relaxed. His attitude showed no sign of weakness, for despite the relaxed mood, throughout this interview we sensed in him the rigor of a man who has learned to know his fellow men thoroughly. Dressed modestly and with grizzled hair, the Chadian president answered all our questions in a clear and audible voice. No question vexed him. He was sharp in his answers. There are certain issues on which Hissein Habre does not compromise: These are the independence and the territorial integrity of Chad.

I.D.: Mr President, you have achieved the demythification of the "16th parallel," you have attacked Aozou, and you even destroyed the Ma'tan al-Sarra military base in Libya. What remains to make your victory and that of the Chadian people complete?

Hissein Habre: The "16th parallel" was a detestable and an unacceptable concept. This is because permitting it would mean accepting the occupation of nearly 500,000 square kms of our territory, which is roughly one-third of Chad's land area. Therefore, this was an idea we have always rejected and fought against. The concept itself was a provocation, a kind of challenge to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Chad, as well as to its right to live within its territorial borders. It is a sacred duty for the Chadian nation and the Chadian people to liberate the country. We have succeeded in liberating almost all our territory. However, the Aozou region still remains to be freed. Of course, during this war we destroyed the Ma'tan al-Sarra base. This was only legitimate and correct, for this base, which was located close to our borders, was being largely used to bomb our towns in the northern region, as well as in the eastern and central parts of our country. The Ma'tan al-Sarra base was used to bomb men, women, and children. We only exercised what international law allows us to do; namely, the right of pursuit after the Libyan attempt to attack Ounianga. Therefore, all we did was to exercise our right of pursuit. Our forces returned home immediately after accomplishing their mission. This shows you that we had no intentions other than destroying this criminal base. Having said this, we still must liberate the remaining portion of our country.

I.D.: Do you intend to carry out additional operations like the one that took you to Ma'tan al-Sarra?

Hissein Habre: I cannot answer that question affirmatively or negatively. It depends on how the situation develops and on the course of the war. If it were up to us alone, not one more shot would be fired or a single drop of blood would be shed. However, this war is being imposed on us. We must defend ourselves.

I.D.: Could you describe the U.S. assistance that aids your efforts to liberate Chad?

Hissein Habre: America, with which we maintain relations of cooperation and friendship, is assisting Chad. It is giving us economic, cultural, technical, and military assistance. We rightly value this help, which Chad greatly needs. This is not only because Chad is at war, but also because the country is being constructed and is still developing. This is the significance of the U.S. assistance. It will help in reconstruction, in development, as well as in defending Chad's territorial integrity in the face of external aggression.

I.D.: Will the U.S. decision to supply you with Stinger missiles change the course of the fighting?

Hissein Habre: I don't think we should have too many illusions. There should no longer be any myth concerning these arms. The Stinger missile is a modern weapon with a certain number of advantages, but it is not a panacea. First of all, we have not yet received these weapons. We will be very happy to have them, for in this area, Libya has always had the advantage. This is due to its Air Force and to the fact that we are nearly unarmed in the face of Libya. Possessing these missiles is therefore important to us, but I do not believe that they alone can solve all our problems.

I.D.: Will French forces remain in Chad for a long time?

Hissein Habre: This depends on French officials. Due to the cooperative and friendly relations existing between Chad and France, we have requested that Paris keep its troops in Chad as long as the Chad-Libya conflict remains unresolved. The Chadian Government hopes that French forces will remain in Chad for the time being.

I.D.: Africa is agitated by the contingent of Lebanese and Palestinian Druze being sent to Aozou. What do you think about this?

Hissein Habre: We have always informed, increased the awareness of, and drawn the attention of African leaders to the seriousness of Libyan aggression. Tripoli's behavior is backed by a philosophy and a policy that is fundamentally racist and expansionist in nature. Chad is currently suffering from the consequences of this policy, but the whole of Africa should know that this danger also threatens it.

Meanwhile, Africa is becoming increasingly aware of this, so it is quite normal for it to be preoccupied by recent developments in this situation: the presence of the Druze at the side of Libyan troops. But I should add that there are not only Druze. In addition to the Lebanese there are Palestinians—those belonging to Yasir 'Arafat's group, to George Habash's PFLP, to Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC, and to Abu Musa's pro-Syrian organization. There are Palestinian and Lebanese Communists, North and South Yemenis, Syrians, and a group of Algerian pilots as well. This is a lot. We estimate that the number of mercenaries serving Al-Qadhafi is approximately 6,000. Al-Qadhafi has therefore launched a true racist crusade against Chad and Africa. Africa, therefore, has every reason to be worried.

I.D.: How do you view relations with Algeria? How would you describe them?

Hissein Habre: Algeria's attitude is quite inconsistent, considering that it is a member of the OAU ad hoc committee tasked with resolving the Chad-Libya conflict. The least that should be expected from Algeria is neutrality. Unfortunately, what we see is instead just the

opposite. That is to say, it gives extremely active diplomatic as well as military support to Libya. Algeria is not at all impartial in this affair. It has taken sides, which is regrettable, but this is only an observation.

I.D.: Do you think that black Africa supports your cause?

Hissein Habre: To tell the truth, I must say that for a long time, Africa remained more or less silent, inactive, and unaware of the seriousness of the situation, as well as of the tragedy of the Chadian people. Thank God, Africa has for some time now become increasingly aware of the situation. We consider this to be very positive. I am convinced that Africa will continue to become increasingly informed of matters. The OAU is currently charged with resolving this conflict through its ad hoc committee, which is presided over by His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo [president of Gabon]. Chad hopes that the committee will arrive at a solution. Furthermore, we highly appreciate Africa's growing awareness of the Chad-Libya war. This conflict is acquiring other dimensions now that Al-Qadhafi and certain Arab countries seek to give it a racist tinge.

I.D.: Speaking of the ad hoc committee, do you think that a negotiated solution can ever be reached if the Libyan leader continues to boycott all its meetings?

Hissein Habre: Al-Qadhafi currently has clearly demonstrated his contempt for African efforts and especially his desire to annex Chad. We do not believe the Libyan regime has abandoned its objectives. Nevertheless, and without any illusions, it is possible that African pressure, efforts by the OAU, and those made by the organization's ad hoc committee will lead to progress in achieving peace. It would be a step forward even if the ad hoc committee is able to clarify the case before it.

I.D.: Do you have the support of certain countries?

Hissein Habre: Thank God, I can say that we have a lot of friends, not only among the Afro-Arab countries but also throughout the entire Arab world. Al-Qadhafi, however, has his friends in the Arab world and also in Chad.

I.D.: There are reports of Libyan troop movements on the Chad-Sudan border. Have you raised this issue with Sudanese officials?

Hissein Habre: Yes, we have always discussed this issue with Sudanese officials. This is because Al-Qadhafi has for several years sought to entrench a presence in Sudan and to create a front against Chad in the east. Since the political changes in Sudan, and especially since Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi took power, Al-Qadhafi has found willing ears. There is a growing Libyan presence in Sudan. The Islamic Legion—the Libyan Armed Forces that have infiltrated Sudan—increasingly threaten the security of Chad. Unfortunately, Sudanese officials have

closed their eyes to this situation, for several reasons. Chad is thus naturally compelled to take all necessary precautions to counter the open threat from Sudan.

I.D.: What do you intend to do about the threat posed by the concentration of Libyan troops on the Niger side of the Aozou Strip?

Hissein Habre: The Libyans have established a military base in Nigerois territory at the extreme end of the border between Niger and Libya. This base has been operational for some time now. The Libyans have even constructed an airstrip roughly 3,000 meters long there. Some of the Druze, Palestinian, Syrian, and other mercenaries are already there. This base is a threat to both Chad and Niger. I believe that Niger has every reason to be concerned about this, just like Chad.

I.D.: The Chadian opposition, if you will allow me to use this term, is holding meetings interminably and trying to find a leader for itself. Do you have any contacts with this opposition at the moment, and what do you expect it will do?

Hissein Habre: Put Chadian opposition in quotes! Chad has come a long way in its quest for national reconciliation. Today, virtually all the essential elements of this opposition have returned home. Our fellow countrymen who yesterday belonged to the opposition have not only returned home but now also participate in running the country's institutions at all levels. Having said this, some Chadians still remain outside the country. I repeat, some Chadians. These Chadians spend most of their time in airplanes on their way to this or that African capital. Quite often, they are in Tripoli or elsewhere, where they make statements or hold meetings. But all this is regrettable. This example of irresponsibility that they are displaying to Chad and Africa is quite a pity and a shame. But the Chadian Government is loyal to its policy of welcoming persons with open arms, and it continues to have contacts with them. We are optimistic about the future of Chadians living abroad.

I.D.: The Chadian issue, which was on the UN agenda, has disappeared due to a diplomatic process that defies understanding. Mr President, please help us understand what happened.

Hissein Habre: I do not know whether I can succeed in making you understand! However, I will give you some explanations to clarify matters. A long time ago, we referred the Chadian issue to the United Nations, through its General Assembly and Security Council. Chad recently again reminded that organization of this issue through the General Assembly. Some people in Africa and elsewhere believe that since the OAU and the ad hoc committee are working on this matter, it is better to wait for the results of their efforts than to entrust this issue to the UN General Assembly. That is the stand of those who do not want the United Nations to discuss the Chadian issue. However, we stated that this matter must

not be viewed this way. First of all, we know through experience that Al-Qadhdhafi has not yet been honest. He has always sought to undermine the efforts of the OAU. Al-Qadhdhafi has pursued a policy of absenteeism for a long time now. We remind everyone that this matter was brought before the OAU almost 10 years ago. What progress have we made so far?

Second, we know—and have evidence for this—that Libya recently agreed to attend the Lusaka meeting for purely tactical reasons, not because it wanted to cooperate sincerely with the ad hoc committee in finding a final solution to the conflict. In fact, Al-Qadhdhafi has sought to divert the OAU's attention to gain time. This is why we say that what the UN General Assembly would do would not be contrary to what the OAU ad hoc committee is doing. These actions would instead be complementary. Therefore, the UN effort will only back that of the OAU. We do not see any contradiction there. This is where we stand on this matter. Of course, those who do not want this issue to be brought before the UN General Assembly have other reasons that they are unable to disclose publicly.

I.D.: Who opposes a debate at the OAU General Assembly [as published]?

Hissein Habre: No, (smile) I do not care to mention any names.

I.D.: How does a sole party such as the UNIR [National Union for Independence and Revolution] function in a country at war?

Hissein Habre: First of all, the UNIR, legally speaking, is not a sole party. The UNIR wishes to be a broad, democratic, and open movement. It has been founded in the face of the war situation, and more specifically, in a country that up to now has been politically divided. In view of the many small groups that sowed division among the people, and due to the vacuum that previously existed, the UNIR wants to be a rallying movement. It also wants to be a vanguard movement capable of mobilizing, creating awareness, sensitizing, stimulating the efforts of Chadians, and safeguarding their unity. All this must take place within a democratic framework in which each Chadian can freely express his views, ideas, and opinions. The UNIR thus represents an irreplaceable tool.

I.D.: You speak of revolution in Chad, but what will its source of inspiration be?

Hissein Habre: The word revolution is, of course, a very corrupted word. When we speak of revolution in Chad, we are referring to freeing Chad from foreign domination, whatever its source. This word also means to restore peace in Chad, along with the nation's territorial integrity. It means peace in happiness, dignity, respect, and sovereignty.

Revolution in Chad means deep changes and alterations in the economic and social order, completing reconstruction, and vigorously pursuing our policy of development. Revolution in Chad also means changing Chad not only economically but also socially and culturally. That is what we mean by this word. Of course, it also means more democracy and freedom.

I.D.: So, it is not a revolution like we have seen in some parts of Africa, one strongly inspired by Marxist-Leninist ideals?

Hissein Habre: No...no. We think that Marxism-Leninism, as a doctrine and as a conception of the world, represents a contribution. There are interesting things in Marxism-Leninism. But we do not consider Marxism to be a panacea. We do not believe that Marxism-Leninism is capable of solving all of Africa's problems. Africa has its own history and culture, even if some of us refuse to acknowledge its cultural heritage. Africa has its traditions and its conception. These are derived precisely from its history and from its human and developmental traditions. Therefore, rather than aping the right or the left, Africa must make its own way. Naturally, it should also use the values and experiences that can be adopted from other places.

I.D.: The war imposed on you is a drain on your country. Can its effect on the educated youth, Chadian farmers, and the different sectors within your national economy be calculated?

Hissein Habre: It is unquestionably a drain! A whole generation is virtually being sacrificed. Nothing is more destructive than war. To give you an example, there was the 1980 war in Ndjamen, which lasted for 9 months. Since 1982, we have been trying to rebuild what we destroyed in 9 months. We have not yet succeeded. The youth have suffered exceptionally in every way. They have suffered in their very souls, for it is the youth who have paid more than anyone with their lives in this war. Chadian youth have suffered terribly in the academic and cultural fields. Today we have thousands of senior high school graduates who cannot pursue higher studies. This is because our small university cannot absorb them, because public finances cannot provide scholarships for studies abroad, and because the national economy cannot absorb all these young people. Thousands of young men and women thus find themselves in the streets. Chad is therefore facing serious problems caused by this conflict. However, while we have fought this war, we have also tried to make efforts in all directions. We have put significant effort into the economic, social, and cultural sectors to help youth.

I.D.: You have begun an immense national reconstruction program. What are your political priorities?

Hissein Habre: On the political level, our priority is to end the war. This goes without saying, for as long as the war continues, one cannot hope to devote many

resources or much energy to other things. Yet the Chadian people, like any other people, want progress. Consequently, our priorities in this area are clear-cut: to finish this war, to preserve and consolidate national unity, and to continue our efforts to build and develop.

I.D.: What economic plan are you going to adopt to revive the economy?

Hissein Habre: Despite our difficulties, despite the destruction of our civil service and our tools of labor, we have, with the help of the international community, formulated a tentative development plan. This plan includes both a reconstruction phase and a development phase, since the two are linked. Particular emphasis is placed on self-sufficiency in food, roads, and the telecommunication infrastructure. We want to preserve a certain number of local industries and make them viable. However, the drop in prices for raw materials is not helping us much. Our plan corresponds to this transitional phase. It emphasizes self-sufficiency in food, agriculture, roads, transportation, and animal husbandry, which has been neglected for a long time. These are the key aspects of the development plan.

I.D.: Do you intend to appeal for foreign capital and to Chadians in exile?

Hissein Habre: Not only Chad, but today all countries, even the most well-to-do, certainly have an indispensable need for foreign capital. This is why Chad is cooperating with the international community and financial institutions—the World Bank, the Common Market, African institutions like the African Development Bank—and also the private sector. We have Western partners in the petroleum sector. Therefore, Chad is trying to bring its national resources and foreign capital together to help develop it. Chadians have been playing their required role in this development process, but their efforts by necessity must be supplemented with external aid and support.

I.D.: Could you discuss the role of women in a predominantly Muslim country?

Hissein Habre: Traditionally, in countries where Islam plays an important role, one tends to believe that women are more oppressed than anywhere else. This is not such a false impression when one considers conditions in a number of Muslim countries. However, there are nonetheless some countries that practice a very open form of Islam. I must say that in Chad, Islam is not practiced as it is in some other countries. We believe that when Islam is practiced correctly, it does not deny women their dignity and freedom. Furthermore, Chadian women have played and still play a very important role in all levels of society. Our sisters paid with their blood at the forefront of our liberation struggle against the Libyan invaders. They are in the Army, in all political organizations, and in the administration. You know the important role African women play in rural areas. The

Women's Organization of the National Union for Independence and Revolution is very active. It is therefore safe to say that Chadian women not only play an important role in our society, but they also have a very active and greatly appreciated role in the nation. I would like to add that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women is headed by a woman, one of our sisters. She has a college degree and runs her ministry very competently and energetically. This shows you what an important part Chadian women play in our society.

I.D.: Don't you think that women could be appointed to posts other than that of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women?

Hissein Habre: Why not? (laughter) They could run other ministries. But I think we should not fall into the trap of exaggerated feminism and thus become the victims of a certain fashion. Women have their own values. God created man and woman to make them complementary. Don't you think that in some fields women are more skilled and more successful than men, and vice versa? Therefore, how I make my choices in appointing officials stems from my analysis of what constitutes efficiency and pragmatism.

I.D.: We hope that one day you will test women's competency in other fields!

Hissein Habre: But certainly!...(laughter) Certainly.

I.D.: The Romans used to say that one should first live before philosophizing. What is the cultural policy of Chad?

Hissein Habre: Chad's cultural policy is based on the fact that due to historical facts, every people and every continent are bound to consider their own values and at the same time benefit from other cultures. This is how we see Chad's cultural development. For example, we should strive to not neglect our national languages. This is very important. The white people tried to teach us to despise our own languages, which was a calculated and wicked policy. Your generation did not sing the colonial song, "Our Ancestors the Gauls." We did...

I.D.: Yes, but we carried the humiliating "symbol..." [not further identified]

Hissein Habre: (laughter) We should always build on what the solid basis of our African tradition can offer us, and then add whatever mankind, technical progress, science, and technology can provide.

I.D.: Let us move on to another issue. A young head of state died in a coup d'etat. What is your opinion about the October events in Burkina Faso?

Hissein Habre: I knew President Sankara. We deplored his death in the circumstances we all know about. But we should try to consider these events unsentimentally.

What really happened in Burkina Faso? What facts brought about these particular events? We do not know much about this. Therefore, Chad is reluctant to make any hasty judgments. We also do not want to interfere in the internal affairs of that country. We hereby express the hope that Burkina Faso, the Burkinabe people, and their leaders will be able to restore national unity and peace to pursue their development policy.

I.D.: Let us return to you, Mr President. What image of yourself would you like the Chadian people, the Africans, and the international community to have?

Hissein Habre: That is a very difficult question. To tell the truth, it is up to the Chadian people, to the Africans, and to the international community to make their own judgment. But my simple ambition is to bring peace to my people, to try to serve my country, the Chadian people, and beyond that to serve Africa and the African peoples the best that I can.

Egypt

Day of Solidarity With Palestinians Celebrated

Mubarak's UN Message

NC291516 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1250 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to the United Nations marking the International Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People dated 29 November; read to the General Assembly by 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, Egypt's permanent representative to the United Nations]

[Excerpt] New York, 29 Nov (MENA)—[Passage omitted] Mr Chairman of the committee concerned with the exercise of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights: Another year is to be added to the sufferings of the fraternal Palestinian people, whose issue is one of the most grave on the UN agenda. This year is different. It did not simply add another digit to the duration of the Palestinian issue, but witnessed the conception of an international consensus and identity of views on exploiting a suitable opportunity to realize and implement the notion of convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

Time is ripe for all the nations in the Middle East and the Palestinian people to enjoy peace based on justice and to exercise their legitimate right in development and progress in order to catch up with the age's developments, and to move into the 21st century armed with progress and prosperity, able to contribute to realizing prosperity and development for mankind throughout the world.

We are all called upon to reflect with sincerity, determination, and boldness the conscience of international community and to derive from it wisdom and courage, while shouldering our responsibilities toward the Palestinian people's rights, translating these rights into a living, solid reality.

Mr Chairman: Various developments have occurred and new stands have appeared which have imposed themselves on the issue. Nobody can deny that these are positive developments which reflect full understanding and rising vigilance toward the seriousness of the situation and the need to make swift moves to end the existing situation and the occupation which generates further violence and hatred every day.

Mr Chairman: Despite the responsibilities and commitments resulting from Egypt's extensive foreign political action, all moves by Egyptian diplomacy have been focused on giving prominence to and support for the Palestinian cause. This effort has been undertaken because this cause is a principled issue that represents one of the main axes of Egypt's political endeavors. The Palestinian issue constitutes the quintessence and core of the Middle East conflict.

Egypt has been tenacious in holding intensive contacts with the various parties and influential international powers concerned with the issue. It also has blessed the UN efforts and the UN secretary general's activities and cooperated with him in all sincerity for the sake of realizing the convening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East. Egypt spared no effort in its quest for moderate, practical, and acceptable formulas.

In its endeavors to find a just solution to the Palestinian issue, Egypt proceeds from its strong commitment to peace as a way and method, realizing at the same time that peace is inseparable and that justice is its primary component.

Egypt continues to make endeavors and efforts to eliminate all existing difficulties and to prepare the appropriate atmosphere in which the international peace conference could be convened and all parties concerned could be influenced to agree on the most suitable formulas and methods for their participation in a conference.

Furthermore, Egypt attaches special importance to the need to reach consensus over a joint Arab stand that would support the Palestinian right and would enable the peace process to forge ahead toward establishing a just and comprehensive peace that could attain security, tranquility, and coexistence for all parties.

In this regard, we would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the role being played by the Palestinian Rights' Committee and its distinguished contribution

toward achieving peace in the Middle East. We would like to reiterate our profound faith that peace in our region is indivisible from world security, stability, and peace.

Peace and God's mercy and blessings be with you.

Foreign Minister's Message

NC292027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA)—The International Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People was celebrated by the Arab Republic of Egypt at a ceremony tonight. It was held at the Arab League's building in Cairo and organized by the Egyptian Society to the United Nations.

'Umran al-Shafi'i, ambassador at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, read the message of the Egyptian Society to the United Nations. In its message, the society called upon Arab governments and the PLO to initiate a constructive collective dialogue in order to add to the views on what form an international conference for solving the Middle East crisis and other issues should take and also to present a comprehensive Arab stand. [passage omitted]

Ahmad Hamrush, chairman of the Egyptian Committee for the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity, was the next speaker. He emphasized that the Israeli Government's rejection of an international conference is, in essence, a hostile attitude toward a comprehensive and just peace which guarantees the right of all the peoples in the region to lead a safe and secure life. He pointed out that this hostility fully coincides with the Iranian rulers' rejection of all peace mediations and the UN and Security Council's resolutions on ending the Gulf war. [passage omitted]

PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani conveyed the greetings and appreciation of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to President Husni Mubarak, the heroic Egyptian people, and their struggling president, for the Egyptian decision to open the PLO's offices in Cairo and for supporting the Palestinian cause and the Arab nation in its efforts to achieve its well-being and strength. He referred to the speech that President Husni Mubarak delivered prior to the convening of the Arab summit in Amman. In that speech, the president emphasized that Arab security is an indivisible whole and affirmed that Egypt will continue to carry out its role as it has done in the past. Al-Surani said that that speech had contributed to a great extent to the success of the Amman summit.

The PLO Executive Committee member said that Egypt's return to the Arab fold has rectified the strategic fault in the Arab homeland and that that country will resume its leading role in the Arab nation.

This fault would have continued to exist in the area without Egypt, Al-Surani added. This would have been in Israel's interest because Egypt can bring the Arab nation together, Al-Surani said. He pointed out that during Egypt's absence from the Arab fold, no Arab state was able to carry out its role. He stressed that Egypt represents the cultural center of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Al-Surani asserted that the PLO is for a peace that guarantees and does not dissipate rights and that prevents settlement, immigration, aggression, and the violation of UN resolutions, Geneva agreements, and man's rights.

Ambassador Ahmad Hatatah, assistant foreign minister, then read the message of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. In his message, 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Egypt's celebrations on this occasion stem from its profound faith that the world must be mobilized for the sake of solidarity with and support for the Palestinian people's struggle so that that struggle will achieve its objectives.

In his message, Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that cognizant of its historic and pan-Arab responsibilities, Egypt's leadership and people strongly side with the rights of the Palestinian people, who continue to suffer from the yoke of occupation. Dr 'Abd al-Majid went on to say that while peace is an invariable objective of its political strategy, Egypt has been eager to stress most unequivocally that the roots of peace and stability in our region will be deepened when the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights.

He noted that all moves undertaken by Egyptian diplomacy have been focused on giving prominence to and support for the Palestinian cause. This effort has been undertaken because this cause is a principled issue that represents one of the main axes of Egypt's political endeavors. The Palestinian issue constitutes the quintessence and core of the Middle East conflict.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid noted in his message that Egypt is making painstaking and continuous efforts for the sake of speeding up the convening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East. He added that such a conference should be attended by all parties concerned and by the permanent members of the UN Security Council in order to reach a just, peaceful, and comprehensive settlement.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that Egypt has relentlessly contributed to and continues to make efforts to prepare an international atmosphere conducive for accepting the notion of a conference. Egypt has played a leading role in motivating the peace process and realizing an international consensus with regard to the just Palestinian rights.

In his message, Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that the Palestinian issue has been and will continue to represent the biggest challenge, imposing itself not only on our nation's conscience and on the future of peace in our region, but also on the world's conscience, future, and security. He pointed out that peace is like the essence of justice—both are indivisible. [passage omitted]

Commentary on Palestinian Operation in Israel
NC271434 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Ahmad Sha'ban commentary: "Israeli Security Cannot Be Established by Force and Oppression"]

[Text] Does the recent commando operation against the Israeli military base, with Israel's subsequent threats to retaliate against Palestinian bases and assembly points, mean a return to the principle of violence and counter-violence? Will the operation result in a flare-up of the situation between the two sides? These questions arise in the wake of the Palestinian operation that killed and wounded a number of Israeli soldiers and triggered threats of retaliation.

The commando operation proves beyond any doubt that security strips and the use of force and oppression can never achieve real protection as long as there are people who suffer from injustice and who feel that their land is occupied by strangers. The operation also proves that the Palestinian identity is an established reality and that all attempts to obliterate it will fail. The Palestinian people prove their existence with every moment and try to defend and use their legitimate rights. They respond to any real peace initiative and clearly declare, through their leaders, their willingness to accept the principle of peace. The Palestinian people are acting in order to prove their existence and their right to confront any Israeli attempt to obliterate their identity, to annihilate them, and to cross their names off the Middle East map. The people of Palestine affirm that they stand fast vis-a-vis these attempts and that they will not allow these attempts to succeed, no matter how strong the suppressive acts are.

If we admit that there are extremists inside Israel who do not accept peace and believe only in suppression and deterrence, we can equally assert that there is a majority which understands the truth of the matter and acts seriously to achieve peace in the region. In this context, we can say that violence and counter-violence, both past and present, must have proved to the Israelis by now that their security and peace cannot be brought about by force. They can live in safety and security through another approach; namely, through understanding and dialogue in order to establish peace.

Today, a favorable opportunity that the Israelis should not miss has presented itself: an Arab agreement on the idea of the international conference as the way to establish peace in the region and resolve pending issues. The

international conference can arrive at a solution to the issue in a manner that would bring about peace and security for all, if there is a will. This peace and security would benefit all the peoples of the region, particularly the Israeli people themselves.

Israeli Calls for Retaliation 'Must Stop'

NC291618 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1240 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Mursi 'Atallah commentary: "The Fever of Retaliation in Israel Poses a Great Threat to the Cause of Peace"]

[Excerpts] The feverish call being promoted by Israeli media and senior state officials, including Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, for retaliation against the fedayeen operation that took place north of Israel last Wednesday must stop immediately before it generates feelings of antagonism, hatred, and fanaticism among the Israeli public and before it contaminates the Israeli mood with the virus of reneging on the path of peace. This feverish call for retaliation is absolutely not in the interest of anyone. It certainly does not serve the interests of Israel which, by experience, knows that the method of reprisal strikes has failed to solve any of its problems in 40 years. In addition, this call is not conducive to peace, which basically requires the renunciation of all types of aggression, repression, and atrocity and the creation of an atmosphere that calms public feelings.

It would be better for Israel if it were to examine the dimensions and subsequently absorb the lessons of this fedayeen operation. Israel must realize that peace, security, and stability cannot be achieved through the concept of safe borders, which it is constantly promoting. Nor can this be achieved through the establishment of security zones beyond its borders and within the territories of others, as is now the case in southern Lebanon, from where the pilot flying the hang glider took off and carried out his operation. Peace and stability cannot be ensured for a single party to the exclusion of the other; rather, it can only be achieved mutually and equally among all the peoples in the region, including the Palestinian people. [passage omitted]

It may be true that Israel can deal a retaliatory strike against whomever it believes responsible for the fedayeen operation. It may also be true that Israel can launch reprisals to terrify the Palestinian people both in and outside the occupied territories in order to restore to the Israeli Army part of its prestige and pride before the Israeli public. However, Israel must not forget that its all-out invasion of Lebanon, during which the capital, Beirut, was occupied, all the [Palestinian] resistance bases and offices were attacked, and most of the Palestinian factions were forced to depart, has not stemmed the fedayeen operations, ended the Palestinian presence, or achieved safety and security for the Galilee, an objective of the invasion campaign which remains remote.

The establishment of peace, security, and stability is a strategic objective that must remain above all the other tactical moves that Israel is contemplating at the moment, including restoring its prestige and might or quenching the desire for revenge and retaliation. Regardless of the Israelis' feeling of shock and surprise at the daring nature of this fedayeen operation, they must face the event with courage and rationality. They must dig deep into the roots of the problem and come up with acceptable solutions to end the 40-year-old dispute.

It would be better for Israel if it were to embark on a series of initiatives that could encourage bridges of confidence to be extended to the Palestinians. Israel can do this and prove its credibility by proceeding along the road of peace and by accepting the international conference for peace immediately. It is irony of fate that Israel is now refusing to sit at the negotiating table under the umbrella of an international conference because it has been bragging for years about its desire to negotiate with the Arabs while expressing its regret over the Arab and Palestinian opposition to this.

Mubarak To Receive Arab Leaders in Cairo Soon

PM301639 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
26 Nov 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Mini Arab Summits in Cairo Shortly"]

[Text] Cairo, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat Bureau—Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* has learned from Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources that within the coming weeks Cairo will witness high-level Arab meetings between President Husni Mubarak and some of the Arab leaders who have recently restored relations with Egypt. These will include bilateral and trilateral meetings. The sources said that President Husni Mubarak's talks with King Husayn of Jordan last week dealt with this issue, and that the Jordanian monarch conveyed to President Mubarak the wish of some Arab leaders to visit Cairo.

The sources indicated that these meetings will be like mini Arab summits discussing current Arab problems, that there will be joint coordination to deal with them, and that the Jordanian monarch will be a principal party in most meetings in his capacity as chairman of the Arab League's current session.

The sources mentioned that the Arab leaders due to meet with President Mubarak in Cairo shortly are expected to include the Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Sultan Qabus of Oman, and UAE President Shaykh Zayid.

King Husayn Seeks Egypt-Syria Reconciliation
PM271507 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Nov 87 p 1

[Muhammad Nawwar Report: "King Husayn Working for Egyptian-Syrian Reconciliation"]

[Text] *Al-Sha'b* has learned that the Jordanian monarch King Husayn is currently making attempts to reconcile Egypt and Syria. The early, encouraging signs of such attempts emerged during the Amman summit, where King Husayn first introduced to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad reconciliation with Egypt in order to unite Arab ranks. The Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation was a turning point in the position held by Syria, which abandoned its hard line toward Egypt and expressed unexpected major flexibility, thus giving King Husayn the opportunity to achieve Egyptian-Syrian rapprochement.

Al-Sha'b has learned that the most important point discussed during President Mubarak's recent visit to Jordan, which lasted only a few hours, was the issue of Egyptian-Syrian reconciliation.

In view of the results of the talks between King Husayn and President Mubarak, the Jordanian monarch visited Damascus to complete his talks with the Syrian president. The Camp David agreement is considered to be the clear obstacle to reconciliation. Egypt stresses that it cannot accept reconciliation conditional upon abrogation of the agreement.

Kuwaiti Report on Khalil's Mission Denied
NC010700 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2306 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—A responsible official source has denied a report published by Kuwait's *Al-Watan* newspaper to the effect that Dr Mustafa Khalil, NDP deputy leader for foreign relations, had received specific instructions and directions from Egyptian officials concerning his mission in Israel. The source affirmed that the report is baseless.

Foreign Minister Addresses People's Committees
NC281859 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that the Arab summit in Amman had opened a new page in Arab relations. He added that Egypt welcomed the decisions of the nine brotherly Arab countries to restore full diplomatic relations with Egypt, and that the overall pan-Arab situation has proved that Egypt's Arab stand is above all kinds of one-upmanship.

This came in the statement that Dr 'Abd al-Majid delivered tonight before the joint session of the People's Assembly's Arab Affairs, Foreign, Defense, and National Security Committees. He praised the unique role played by King Husayn to clear the Arab atmosphere, as well as

the wisdom of the Arab rulers who had helped him to carry out his task. He added that Egypt considers the improvement in relations between any two Arab countries to be of benefit to the entire Arab family.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid referred to the coming round of talks at the United Nations on the Gulf problem, which will take place in the presence of Iraqi and Iranian representatives. He expressed the hope that these talks would result in an agreement that would solve this problem, particularly as Iraq has accepted UN Resolution 598.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister then said that the agreement to eliminate nuclear missiles from Europe is a step in the right direction. He added that Egypt calls on all countries to sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

He also mentioned that Egypt has contacted the two superpowers, asking them to include the convocation of the international conference for peace in the Middle East on the agenda of the meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi will represent Egypt at the African summit conference on Africa's debts. Egypt, he added, is the leading African country calling for an agreement acceptable to all so as to preserve the stability of economic and international relations.

Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, then delivered the Defense Ministry's statement. His statement was inspired by the president of the Republic's speech, after which he took the constitutional oath for his 2d term in office and in which he set out the principles of our foreign policy as follows:

One, peace is a strategic policy; it is indivisible, and it cannot be stable unless it is based on strength and justice;

Two, commitment to a just peace for Egypt and the fraternal countries;

Three, Egypt's role in Egyptian and Arab national security and in increasing cooperation among the Arab peoples; and

Four, Egypt will remain at the vanguard of the Islamic world and the Arab, African, and nonaligned countries.

More on Addresses

NC282203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that the outcome of the Amman summit, especially regarding the Arab leaders' acceptance of the idea of an international peace conference under the auspices

of the United Nations in the presence of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the PLO, is considered a success for Egyptian diplomacy, which has always called for this conference and mobilized international support for it.

This came in a statement that 'Abd al-Majid delivered tonight before a joint session of the People's Assembly Arab Affairs, Foreign, Defense, and National Security Committees, which was held under Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat, chairman of the Arab Affairs Committee. Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, attended the meeting.

In his address, 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Egyptian security is an indivisible part of Arab national security. He praised the results reached by the Arab leaders at the emergency summit in Amman. He said that the resolutions adopted by the conference have shown the world that the Arabs are committed to a peaceful, honorable, and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

'Abd al-Majid welcomed the decision by nine Arab states to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt, saying that the Arabs have taken a big step toward removing a passing and negative phenomenon in Egyptian-Arab relations. He praised the wisdom and good judgment of the Arab leaders, who have realized that Egypt and the Arab world are an inseparable whole.

'Abd al-Majid praised the distinguished role played by King Husayn of Jordan in clearing the Arab atmosphere and reaching consensus and agreement. In this respect, he stressed that Egypt's policy knows only one language. Egypt does not know the policy of axes nor does it approve of it. Egypt also does not seek to isolate any party.

Referring to the agreement reached by the two superpowers to scrap short- and intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that it is a big step in the right direction. He expressed the hope that it will be followed by bigger and more far-reaching steps. He stated that Egypt's stand on the arms race and nuclear tests is clear and stressed that Egypt supports any logical measure to limit these destructive dangers.

'Abd al-Majid said that time has proved the soundness and consistency of Egypt's stand, as well as its ability for positive and balanced action, which takes into consideration the interest of the Arab nation, the expansion of the peace process, and the entrenchment of stability.

Addressing the same meeting, Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, a deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production,

stressed that the Egyptian Armed Forces are capable of defending Egyptian territory and defeating any forces that think they can threaten the homeland's independence or territorial safety.

In his address, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah explained that the best solution to end the Iran-Iraq war is for the Arabs to fearlessly take a public stand against Iran, which would do away with the Iranian regime and force it to stop the war and negotiate.

On Arab military industrialization, Abu Ghazalah said that if the Arabs succeed in establishing a purely Arab arms industry, they will achieve a surplus in production and save many funds that used to be spent for weapons purchases.

Defense Minister Supports Military Readiness
NCJ01652 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Ismailia, 30 Nov (MENA)—Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has asserted that our Armed Forces constantly seek to improve their competence and performance. This constant striving is explained by our Armed Forces' desire to maintain a state of complete readiness to confront all dangers, particularly as we live in a region that is full of tension and hazards. Abu Ghazalah added that everyone looks to Egypt for help. He emphasized that the Egyptian Armed Forces will remain forever the vanguard of this nation and will always defend Egyptian soil and the Arab nation.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah made these statements today while speaking to journalists after attending a celebration marking the Egyptian 2d Army's excellence day and carrying out a war inspection of one of that Army's mechanized divisions. He disclosed that the Armed Forces have permanent inspection programs. During these programs, all formations, combat units, and military equipment undergo inspection in order to assess their combat readiness, technical capability, and armament, and to measure their training and discipline. The units are also inspected to ensure their capability to execute all possible missions and, consequently, to remedy any deficiency. In addition, maintenance and repair capabilities are examined. He said the purpose of the inspections is to attain full combat capability. Abu Ghazalah explained that this is the meaning of war inspection, which does not necessarily indicate the existence of a state of war as much as the need to be capable and prepared to go to war at any moment.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah asserted that the combat capability of our Armed Forces has reached very high standards of training, armament, organization, and combat readiness. He noted that we are continually seeking to improve this competence by supplying our Armed Forces with modern equipment and training them in the

most modern methods of warfare. The deputy prime minister and minister of defense expressed satisfaction with the fact that our Armed Forces have achieved great progress in the field of modern warfare, noting that it is a satisfactory standard which should please every Egyptian. He added that Egypt allocates great sums for the Armed Forces' armament and training requirements. He noted that the Armed Forces must always maintain the combat efficiency of their equipment and to raise their training and combat levels.

Referring to statements by some Arab defense ministers on the need to benefit from Egypt's military expertise in military industries, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah declared that Egypt is always willing to offer expert advice and assistance to any Arab country that asks for such help. He expressed hope that these statements will be translated into actual and tangible policies for the good of the Arab nation.

He noted that the Egyptian Armed Forces have a complete program for joint exercises with some Arab and Western countries. He announced that Italy has actually requested that it be allowed to carry out joint exercises with Egypt. Abu Ghazalah noted that this issue is now being considered by the political leadership. He said that the periodic Egyptian-Jordanian joint exercises will take place early next year. [passage omitted]

Confidence in Interior Minister Affirmed
NC302222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—The Egyptian People's Assembly today asserted its confidence in and support for Interior Minister Zaki Badr and expressed appreciation for the efforts being made by the security forces to protect the citizens.

The support came in response to a motion proposed by 65 members of the People's Assembly. The proposal was put forward after the interior minister responded to two questions posed by two members of the opposition parties.

The assembly had earlier rejected an opposition proposal to withdraw confidence from Zaki Badr and to refer the questions to an investigative committee.

In response to the first question, which concerned the occurrence of cases of torture, the Egyptian interior minister explained that the police would stray from their path and surrender their goals if they were to abandon human attitudes in their work. In such an event, he added, the justification for the existence and continued activity of the police would indeed be lost.

Zaki Badr pointed out that the usual way for every criminal and political defendant to attempt to escape punishment is to make allegations of torture. He said that the Egyptian Interior Ministry possesses proof of

numerous cases documented by the judicial investigation authorities in which some detained individuals held in police stations and prisons had caused various injuries to themselves. These individuals later ascribed these injuries to the police and security forces in order to take vengeance and to conspire against the members of the police force. [passage omitted]

Zaki Badr pointed out that some opposition newspapers have a certain attitude toward the police force. He said that they search for errors and deviations and then unjustly or exaggeratedly ascribe them to the police force. The interior minister noted that foremost among these errors and deviations are the false allegations about the torture of citizens and the publication of forged pictures. He said that the photographers then allege that they had taken the pictures inside prisons. [passage omitted]

Responding to the second question regarding the intervention by the police in the incidents which took place on Friday, 31 October 1986, in a mosque in Asyut, and on 26 December 1986, in a mosque in Cairo, the Egyptian interior minister explained that extremist individuals belonging to the Al-Jihad Organization, who were released after the October 1981 events and the bloody massacres they perpetrated against the police in Asyut in Upper Egypt, have consistently carried out hostile activities. According to Zaki Badr, these individuals carry out such activities in order to assert their presence and to test their ability to defy the legitimate authorities of law and order. [passage omitted]

At the conclusion of his response to the two questions, the interior minister called for a serious and firm stand against terrorism and extremism. He urged that the causes of this phenomenon be remedied through a joint effort in which all political, popular, cultural, and educational institutions in Egypt would participate. He said such action is necessary because this is a national issue and a national duty that must rise above all differences of views and above all disputes. [passage omitted]

Commenting on the two questions put to him, Zaki Badr asserted that the police force is determined to purge society of terrorism. In this connection, the police will adopt all methods and measures capable of defending legitimacy and providing security and stability.

After the People's Assembly reaffirmed its confidence in the interior minister, the session was adjourned until 12 December.

Former Sudanese Military Council Chief Visits
NC271453 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1437 GMT
27 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA)—General 'Abd al-Rahman Sawar al-Dahab, former chief of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a several days' visit to Egypt.

Received by Mubarak

NC010954 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Dec (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Field Marshal 'Abd al-Rahman Sawar al-Dahab, chairman of the board of trustees of the Islamic Call Organization, at the presidential palace this morning. The former chief of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council arrived in Cairo on Friday to visit for several days.

Sidqi Departs for Sudan En Route to Ethiopia

NC281355 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Nov (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi left Cairo for Khartoum this afternoon for a 24-hour visit to the Sudanese capital while en route to Addis Ababa. The prime minister will head Egypt's delegation to the meetings of the African economic summit that starts in the Ethiopian capital on Monday. Dr Sidqi is carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to Sudanese State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani. The Egyptian prime minister will also hold talks with senior Sudanese officials in Khartoum on the two countries' close fraternal relations and cooperation.

Czechoslovak Minister Arrives for Talks

NC272048 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT
27 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA)—Eduard Saul, Czechoslovak minister of metallurgy and heavy engineering, arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a 1-week visit to Egypt.

He said in an arrival statement that he carries a message to Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi from Czechoslovak Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal. He added that during his visit he will meet with Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy; Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, minister of industry; and Eng Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, minister of housing and new urban communities to discuss ways of strengthening bilateral cooperation in the areas of energy and heavy industry.

Minister Saul will also visit projects in which Czechoslovakia is participating, such as water and energy projects in Kafr al-Dawwar and Talkha. [passage omitted]

Meets Industry Minister

NC301459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1245 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—Industry Minister Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab met with Eduard Saul, CSSR minister of metallurgy and heavy engineering, today. The Czechoslovak minister had arrived in Cairo on Sunday [day as received] at the head of an industrial delegation for a week-long visit to Egypt.

During the meeting, the two ministers discussed the role which Czechoslovakia may play in rehabilitating and modernizing a number of Egyptian metallurgical and thermoelectric plants. [passage omitted]

Jordanian Delegation to Joint Committee Arrives

JN291551 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (PETRA)—The Jordanian delegation to the meeting of the joint Egyptian-Jordanian Committee arrived in Cairo today to prepare for the meetings of the higher Jordanian-Egyptian Committee which will begin in Cairo on 3 December.

Muhammad al-Saqqaf, under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and head of the delegation, said the Jordanian and Egyptian sides will discuss various economic, social, industrial, education, information, transport, energy, and touristic issues, and lay the groundwork for the forthcoming phase. He added that a new bilateral trade protocol and a new trade deal will be signed after the meetings. He indicated that the volume of trade according to the new protocol will total \$250 million for each state.

Talks Held on Rescheduling Debts to Spain

NC301914 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1704 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—Talks began at the International Cooperation Ministry in Cairo today on rescheduling the Egyptian Government's debts to Spain in accordance with the Paris Club agreement between Egypt and the creditor countries.

Egypt is represented by 'Abd al-'Aziz Zahawi, first under secretary of the International Cooperation Ministry, and Spain by Gomez Terez Aguar [name as received], head of the Spanish Aid Organization (IKWA).

The Egyptian and Spanish sides held a session this morning and resumed their discussions during a session this evening.

An agreement on rescheduling the Egyptian Government's debts to Spain is expected to be signed on Wednesday. The two sides had reached an agreement earlier this month on rescheduling Egypt's commercial debts.

Egypt has also ratified agreements on rescheduling its debts to France, the United States, the FRG, and part of its debts to Spain, in accordance with the Paris Club agreement reached between Egypt and the creditor states last May.

Qatari Education Minister Received by Mubarak
NC281128 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad al Thani, Qatari minister of education, at the Presidential Palace today.

Sultan Muhammad al-Kuwari, the Qatari charge d'affaires in Cairo, attended the meeting.

Comments on Meeting

NC281642 Cairo MENA in English 1630 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, Nov. 28 (MENA)—Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad al Thani, Qatari minister of education, praised today deep and close relations between Egypt and Qatar and the constant cooperation in the different fields.

Following his meeting today with President Mubarak he said he conveyed to him a verbal message from Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani, amir of Qatar, dealing with ways for consolidating brotherly and close relations between the two countries and in appreciation of Egypt's pioneering role in realizing Arab solidarity, besides a number of issues of mutual interest.

He expressed happiness for being awarded the republican decoration of the first class, pointing to Egypt's role and weight.

He further said President Mubarak asked him to convey his greetings to Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad and his hopes for progress and prosperity for the Qatari people.

The Qatari minister arrived here on Wednesday on a few days' visit to Egypt.

Transport Minister Leaves for Jordan
NC301756 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—Eng Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport, left Cairo for Amman this afternoon for a visit which will last several days. He is due to meet with the Jordanian and Iraqi transport ministers in order to carry out the final measures which will establish the Al-Jisr al-'Arabi Maritime Company. The company is scheduled to begin operations on 1 January 1988. [passage omitted]

Beninese Information Minister Arrives
NC010637 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2255 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)—Beninese Information Minister Ali Houdou arrived in Cairo tonight at the head of a delegation for a 10-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, the Beninese minister will meet with his Egyptian counterpart, Safwat al-Sharif, on matters dealing with the consolidation of information ties between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Health Minister Concludes Visit
NC272057 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Kuwaiti Health Minister Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Awadi left Cairo this evening on his way back to Kuwait, following a 5-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, he met with President Husni Mubarak and handed him a message from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti minister also discussed with senior officials ways to bolster cooperation between Egypt and Kuwait in the areas of health, drug manufacture, and environmental protection.

Israeli Ambassador's Car Involved in Collision
JN291136 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo—Yesterday a pickup truck collided with the Israeli ambassador's car, which was parked in front of the Italian Embassy on Corniche al-Nil in the Garden City area of Cairo. The escort car which was parking near the ambassador's car rushed to stop the pickup but the latter disappeared and its license plate number could not be ascertained. The escort car collided with another private car and a police officer was injured and hospitalized.

The Egyptian authorities are conducting an extensive investigation of the incident. They are acting on the suspicion that the collision was intentional and could have been an attempt to assassinate the Israeli ambassador, especially since the pickup disappeared from the scene without any explanation.

Libya

Jallud Calls Amman Summit U.S. 'Plot'
LD271529 Tehran IRNA in English 1514 GMT
27 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nov. 27, IRNA—Iran's ambassador to Libya, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Kazem Khonsari discussed issues of mutual interest and regional issues with the member of Libyan Revolutionary Council 'Abd al-Salam Jallud here Thursday.

Jallud explained issues examined at the Amman Arab summit and said that the summit was turned over to Jordan on the direct order of the U.S. to realize the plot hatched by the U.S. imperialism and legalize the Camp David accord.

The reactionary Arab regimes, he said, endeavored to adopt decisions against the Islamic Republic of Iran and divert the Arab nation from its 'real and legal' struggle against the Zionist enemy and its supporter, the U.S.

But, Jallud added, the presence and resistance of the progressive Arab states was a snag on the way of the rulers backed by colonialist powers and counters predetermined plans of the great Satan (U.S.).

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khonsari lauded Libyan stances in the Arab summit and said that the presence of progressive states like Libya has always hindered realization of the goals of the protege Arab regimes.

Undoubtedly, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khonsari said, the solidarity and firm resistance of the revolutionary Muslim states which are supported by millions of oppressed Muslim people will bring forth the defeat of imperialism, Zionism and their reactionary followers.

The Iranian ambassador pointed to the mobilization of millions of Muslim combatants of Iran and emphasized the firm determination of the government and people of Iran to fight the illegal presence of the U.S. in the Persian Gulf and deliver successive blows on the criminal Baghdad regime.

U.S. Reaction to Israeli Base Attack Refuted
LD291158 Tripoli JANA in English 1030 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 29, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—The American Department of State described the operation executed by one of the Palestinian guerrillas at a Zionist camp in Al-Jalil al-Aala, in the north of occupied Palestine as a kind of violent act which may threaten what he described as efforts aimed at bringing about peace in the Middle East. This came in a statement made by the Department of State spokesman Charles Redman. The editor of international affairs in JANA commented on this statement. He said we have acquired enough experience to understand this type of upsidedown American logic. We, therefore, know that when the American Department of State describes such guerrilla operation as a threat to the restoration of peace to the Middle East [it] means precisely that such [a] glorious guerrilla act threatens the American efforts aimed at the imposition of surrender on Arabs and [to] subjugate them.

Also, we understand that the statement of the American Department of State is a declaration on its irritation at the volume of the guerrilla action and its effects on the

enemy and eventual dimensions which undoubtedly according to the American viewpoint is a decisive blow to the American decisions adopted by the summit of Amman.

What is this logic and way the American Administration deals with the world, with facts and with history, the editor asked, as the administration condemns the struggle of people whose land [was] usurped, and [were] made homeless and thousands of [whom] were killed with bombs, missiles and jets carrying the American flag and that very administration denies this people the right to defend itself.

But when the Zionist[s] are in occupation of Arab land, [they] make its people homeless then follow it to refugee camps, destroy the homes over their heads, invade Lebanon dropping in few minutes more than 180 thousand rockets returning the rest of the homes to ruins. This is from the American point of view a civilised act carried out by the Zionists in defence of civilisation and human rights and the American Administration does not see any embarrassment in supporting such act in defiance of the decisions of the international community which condemned the said action and considered it criminal.

It is arrogance and the tendency complex for domination and enslaving mankind which the American Administration is seeking to impose as an official language in dealing with peoples aspiring for freedom and their just causes.

But from our point of view, we consider such heroic action, conducted by the Arab eagle and previous martyrs, the alphabet which must be generalised amongst all Arabs as the only language the enemy understands and its protectors proved that this is the language they understand.

In as much as the American Administration sees such action as a threat to the efforts for peace in the region, we consider it the only way to restore just peace based on the liberation of Arab land from Zionist occupation and the assertion of Arab rights and the right of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and participate in the construction of the United Arab state from the Gulf to [the] ocean. The editor of international affairs concluded his commentary by asserting that the statement of the American Department of State shows clearly the American meaning of peace which only means surrender and the guerrillas operation showed that such surrender cannot be imposed or passed in any manner.

Delegation Addresses UN on Palestine Issue
LD261305 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0805 GMT
26 Nov 87

[Text] New York, 26 Nov (JANA)—The Great Jamahiriyah has stressed that the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the Zionist entity's continued attempt to terrorize the Palestine Arab people affirm the racist nature of this regime, which refuses to comply with UN resolutions.

In a statement before the UN General Assembly yesterday evening, the Libyan delegation spoke of the expansionist actions of the Zionist, racist regime which, it said, requires the adoption of international measures to stop the killing, destitution, and persecution of the Palestinian Arabs in the occupied territory. The delegation also denounced the help and support which the United States gives to the Zionist, racist regime in occupied Palestine, saying that the United States was not content with offering direct support to the Zionist enemy, but went further within the framework of its pro-Zionist policy to adopt a decision to close down the Palestine Information Bureau in Washington in an attempt to silence the Palestinian voice in the United States. The delegation said that by concluding its strategic agreement with the Zionist enemy, the United States has become a direct partner in shouldering the major blame for the expansionist, aggressive wars waged by the Zionist entity for expansionist purposes and the creation of the so-called Greater Israel. Furthermore, the delegation said, the United States is responsible for all the repressive practices of the racist regime in occupied Palestine that are committed against the Palestinian Arab people.

Mediterranean Conference Discusses Security
LD251040 Tripoli JANA in English 0836 GMT
25 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Nov 25, *Jamahiriya News Agency*—The Libyan Arab delegation to the meetings of the first committee for consolidating security and co-operation in the Mediterranean Sea region, asserted that the situation in the region is still tense, full of crisis and international conflict. The main reason for all these arrangements is the policies of interference in the internal affairs of the region's states pursued by the imperialist powers.

In its address to the committee for consolidating security and co-operation in the Mediterranean Sea region, the Libyan Arab delegation pointed out that this region had witnessed a sharp rise in tension caused by the concentration of military forces and nuclear arms which constitute a source of grave danger to the nations in the region and adjoining regions apart from the military activities on a large scale by naval fleets—in particular the U.S. Sixth Fleet—which is demonstrated by military intimidations and the staging of military manoeuvres close to the borders and territorial waters of the coastal states.

It said: "Great Jamahiriya has and still is being subjected to a series of threats and provocations, direct and indirect acts of aggression which affected political, economic, cultural and informational fields". The delegation indicated that the acts of aggression against Great Jamahiriya is a living example of the dangers to which the littoral states are subjected and represent a flagrant violation of the UN principles of promoting international co-operation and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states.

It pointed out that preserving security in the Mediterranean essentially requires the concentrating of the efforts of the international community within the framework of the UN to alleviate the traces of basic tensions in the region to find suitable solutions for current issues one of which [is] reaching an urgent solution to the Palestine Arab People's cause.

It said: "Great Jamahiriya sees that work should be carried out to strengthen security and stability in the Mediterranean Sea and a call should be made for the convening of a non-aligned European littoral states' conference to organise collective measures to establish security and stability in the region, banning military manoeuvres and the parading of foreign fleets in the region so that the region becomes a zone of security and stability without interference from colonial foreign states.

Arms Deal Negotiations With Greece Reported
LD271550 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT
27 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, 27 Nov (KUNA)—The Lebanese magazine *Al-Shira* has reported that Libya and Greece are negotiating an arms deal valued at \$1 billion. The weekly magazine added, in today's issue, that negotiations are underway between Athens and Tripoli to furnish Libya with weaponry, including equipment, material, and ammunition, worth \$1 billion. The magazine pointed out that such a deal is facing some hurdles, which involve some of Greece's legal commitments to the EEC, as well as how the deal will be paid for and how much time it will take.

PRC Congress Official Arrives for Visit
LD010935 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0718 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Dec (JANA)—Wang Renzhong, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, and an accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening to visit the Great Jamahiriya.

Wang Renzhong made a statement to JANA in which he expressed his pleasure and that of his delegation to be visiting the Great Jamahiriya. He said the visit was in the context of exchanging visits with the Secretariat of the General People's Congress in the Great Jamahiriya.

In his statement he conveyed the Chinese people's greetings to their friends, the Libyan Arab people. He said that relations between our two countries have developed in a positive way to the benefit of the two friendly peoples.

He pointed out in his statement that issues of mutual concern, means of deepening cooperation between the two countries to promote joint development, and the opening of new prospects for cooperation by pushing forward the friendship between our two countries will be discussed during the visit.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Senegalese Envoy
LD302248 Tripoli JANA in English 1810 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 30, *Jamahiriya News Agency*—The leader of the revolution received Ahmad Manas [name as received], the personal envoy of President Abdou Diouf of Senegal.

Economic Talks With Algeria Reported
LD301528 Tripoli JANA in English 1436 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Algiers, November 30, *Jamahiriya News Agency*—The secretary of the People's Committee for Economy has met this morning the minister of commerce of sisterly Algeria.

At this meeting 3 specialized technical committees have been formed to draw up a programme to promote the existing cooperation between the two sisterly countries in the sphere of economy and trade exchange, apart from updating the customs and tourism commerce agreements coming within the unionist steps taken between the two countries.

Salvation Front Appoints Secretary General
JN011000 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 29 Nov 87 p 6

[By 'Abd al-Wahid 'Abd al-Qadir]

[Text] Alexandria—Yusuf Najm, head of the Information Department of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya in Egypt, was appointed secretary general of the front yesterday. The front's council in Egypt sent a cable of appreciation and gratitude to President Husni Mubarak yesterday in which it praised the great stands adopted by Egypt's Government and people in support of the Libyan people's just struggle. The council discussed a plan of action for the next phase.

Sudan

Egyptian Prime Minister Arrives for Talks

Meets With Al-Mahdi
JN291131 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 29 (SUNA)—Foreign Minister Ma'mun Sanadah, said in a press statement following the end of the first round of the Egyptian Sudanese talks here yesterday, that the Sudanese side briefed the Egyptian side on the Ethiopian backed rebel attack on the border

town of Kurmuk. The Egyptian side chaired by Premier 'Atif Sidqi while Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi chaired the Sudanese side. Sanadah said that Sidqi affirmed that Egypt will be in continuous contact with Sudan to follow up the situation.

The Egyptian premier arrived here yesterday on a one day visit to Sudan carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to the Chairman of the State Council Ahmad al-Mirghani.

Resumes Talks With Al-Mahdi
JN291600 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA)—Foreign Minister Ma'mun Sanadah has stressed that, in a second round of talks, Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and his Egyptian counterpart Dr 'Atif Sidqi today discussed Sudanese-Egyptian relations in all fields. They additionally reviewed issues that concern the two countries. Sanadah indicated that a joint technical committee will meet on 15 and 16 December. This committee will prepare working papers for the meeting that the two prime ministers will hold in the second half of December. Al-Mahdi and Dr Sidqi also met after the arrival of the Egyptian minister yesterday. They reviewed bilateral relations, clarified what actually occurred in Kurmuk, and discussed Egypt's mediation between Sudan and Ethiopia to contain the crisis.

Delivers Message From Mubarak
JN291648 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (SUNA)—Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the State Council, today received a message on Sudanese-Egyptian relations from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. It was delivered when the State Council received 'Atif Sidqi. During their meeting, the two sides exchanged views on various issues of interest to their countries.

Following the meeting, Foreign Minister Ma'mun Sanadah pointed out that the Egyptian prime minister carried a written message from President Mubarak to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile-Mariam. The note concerned Sudanese-Ethiopian relations. He stated that Egypt will work assiduously to contain the deteriorating situation between Sudan and Ethiopia. He also added that Egypt actually began its contacts with Ethiopia 1 day after the aggression against the border town of Kurmuk.

During this meeting, the State Council stressed that Sudan does not intend to interfere in the affairs of other countries. It added that Sudan neither accepts interference in its internal affairs nor aggression against its territory. The State Council also pointed out that Ethiopia recently exceeded the bounds of aid to the rebels by resorting to direct shelling while using long-range rocket launchers and artillery.

Reviews Talks, Departs

NC291708 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (MENA)—Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi departed Khartoum for Addis Ababa following a 2-day visit to Sudan. During his stay, he met with Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the Sudanese State Council; Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister; and other Sudanese officials. Their talks centered on bilateral relations, Sudanese affairs, regional and international conditions, and the African economic summit in the Ethiopian capital.

Dr Sidqi was seen off at the airport by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, senior Sudanese officials, Egyptian Ambassador to Khartoum Taqiy al-Din al-Shirbini, and staff from the Egyptian Embassy.

Before departing from Khartoum, Sidqi stated that his visit to Sudan is an indication of Egypt's strong and complete interest in the security and stability of Sudan. He added: We have ascertained that matters are not the way they are described by some media that do not care for the interests of Egypt and Sudan. Dr Sidqi said that his discussions with Ahmad al-Mirghani and Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi yesterday and today confirmed that certain matters were not completely clear. However, their talks have clarified these issues to a large extent.

Sidqi pointed out that he is carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. He expressed his confidence that conditions will improve greatly.

Al-Mahdi on Sidqi Visit

NC291730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (MENA)—Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has expressed his personal satisfaction and that of the Sudanese people with the visit to Sudan of Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi. He described it as a gesture from sisterly Egypt. Al-Mahdi added that the Sudanese people highly appreciate this effort in view of the current delicate situation. He additionally expressed his hope that all that had been agreed upon during the visit would be implemented.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, the Sudanese prime minister added that the visit of Dr Sidqi to Sudan, which is part of the ongoing exchanges between leaders of both countries to promote their eternal bilateral ties, had achieved all of its objectives. He noted there is full understanding and coordination between the two countries concerning their views on the foreign debts of the African countries. In referring to Sudan's own stand on this issue, Al-Mahdi stated that his country believes in the need to seek African public opinion on certain principles.

The Sudanese prime minister commented that his country is now passing through a delicate stage, particularly in the wake of the aggression against the Kurmuk region. He asserted that Sudan will repulse this aggression, adding: Sudan has a strategic depth, one that we are confident about.

Chadian Envoy Denies Reports of Garang Visits

JN011515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT
1 Dec 87

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Dec (SUNA)—The Chadian ambassador here stated today that his country has not received and will not receive John Garang or any delegation representing Garang's movement. He added that some quarters are disseminating rumors such as these to harm relations between the two countries. The Chadian ambassador was rebutting recent reports that John Garang had visited Chad. The ambassador, who earlier met with State Council member Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, added that they had discussed Sudanese-Chadian relations.

As for the Ethiopian act of aggression against Sudan, the Chadian ambassador stated that his country calls on all African countries to respect the OAU Charter and good-neighborly relations.

SPLA Cites Kurmuk Army Commander on Losses

EA261555 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The former commander of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's forces in Kurmuk has admitted in a message to the Damazin commander, intercepted by SPLA mobile communications unit in Kurmuk, that the number of his soldiers killed in Kurmuk was 330, 66 wounded, and 7 surrendered to the SPLA. He also admitted the losses of tanks, APC's [armored personnel carriers], and howitzer artilleries to the SPLA.

In another development, Radio SPLA has learned that Al-Sadiq's commander of 14th Brigade in Damazin, after the capture of Kurmuk by SPLA forces on 12 November 1987, rounded up the southerners, Ingessena, and any other black men inside Damazin. Most of these people were believed to have been killed in cold blood as a measure of revenge.

Tunisia

Ben Ali Appoints Officials, Shifts Offices

LD271739 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali convened a working session at the Republican Palace in Carthage this morning. It was also attended by Prime Minister

Hedi Baccouche. The meeting reviewed the work of the government and ways to improve it. In this regard, President Ben Ali signed the following edicts during the session.

1. An order attaching cadres of the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reform to the Prime Minister's Office.
2. An order attaching the Department of Religious Affairs at the Ministry of the Interior to the Prime Minister's Office.
3. An order appointing Hassine Cherif as secretary general of the government, with the rank of minister.
4. An order appointing Hamid Labeled as director general of the Prime Minister's Office and legal adviser to the government, with the rank of secretary of state.
5. An order appointing (Mohamed el-Jeri) as delegate general for regional development and construction.
6. An order appointing (Mohamed Ben Haj) as leader of a mission heading the Prime Minister's Office.
7. An order appointing (Ali Zeayem) as director general-president of the Tunisian Company for Cinematic Production and Development.

Opposition Parties Praise 7 Nov Statement
LD291430 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] The opposition parties have held a number of political meetings within the framework of interaction taking place in Tunisia, and especially in accordance with the provisions of the statement made by President of the Republic Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on 7 November. The latest of these gatherings is the extraordinary meeting of the National Council of the Movement of Socialist Democrats. It convened today to examine the political situation in the country in light of the positive developments.

Ahmed Mestiri, the party secretary general, delivered a speech in which he defined the scope of the meeting of the movement's national council. He described its purpose as studying the political situation in Tunisia objectively and rationally, and drawing up a future action plan for the movement. He also expressed the support of the movement for the 7 November statement and for the new era in Tunisia.

The Tunisian Communist Party held a public meeting at the Ibn Rashik Hall in Tunis. It was addressed by Mohamed Harmel, the party first secretary. He analyzed the important developments that have taken place following the statement made by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on 7 November. Harmel also affirmed the support of the Tunisian Communist Party for all the provisions of this statement.

Western Sahara

Moroccan Moves During UN-OAU Visit Denounced
LD281827 Algiers APS in English 1340 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] New York, November 28 (APS)—A high Saharan official, Omar Mansour, denounced Friday in New York Morocco, "which deployed important police forces in Western Sahara to prevent the Saharan population from having contacts" with the UN/OAU technical mission.

"Morocco deployed about 3,000 policemen before the arrival of the mission, arbitrarily detained a number of persons, set up concentration camps and replaced Saharans by Moroccans in public administrations visited by the mission etc...", he added.

Mansour, who also spoke about tortures of the Saharan prisoners, declared that these actions were "a serious attempt to the objectivity and impartiality of the mission".

UN Denies 'Allegations'
LD282339 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] A UN spokesman denied yesterday the allegations by mercenaries concerning incidents and arrests which happened, according to one the mercenaries Omar Mansour, on the occasion of the visit by a UN technical commission to the Sahara.

According to this mercenary, the acts committed by the Moroccan security forces in the Saharan districts seriously harm the integrity and objectivity of the delegation's mission. AFP quoted a UN spokesman who answered these declarations, stressing that the proceedings of the UN delegation led by UN Assistant Secretary General Abd al-Rahim Farah are following their normal course. He did not mention any incidents.

King Husayn Arrives for Talks, Departs
JN301740 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan arrived in Baghdad today on an official visit to Iraq. His majesty was accorded an official welcome. Foremost among those who received him was the leader, President Saddam Husayn. His majesty was also received by Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; RCC members; chief of the presidential office; other ministers; the Iraqi ambassador in Amman; and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad and accompanying embassy staff. King Husayn is accompanied by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i.

The leader, President Saddam Husayn, and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal held a round of talks. They discussed the existing close brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries, the current Arab situation, followups to implementing the Amman summit—the summit of reconciliation and accord—the Iranian aggression against Iraq, and the high state of readiness to repulse any possible aggression.

On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Shakir; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Ahmad Husayn, chief of the presidential office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador to Jordan. On the fraternal Jordanian side, the meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the Jordanian ambassador to Iraq.

The leader, President Saddam Husayn, hosted a private luncheon in honor of King Husayn ibn Talal. The luncheon was attended by the members of the two sides who took part in the talks.

President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn ibn Talal held a closed meeting.

King Husayn left Baghdad at the end of his official visit to Iraq. His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal was accorded an official sendoff led by the leader, President Saddam Husayn. King Husayn was also seen off by RCC members Taha Yasin Ramadan and Tariq 'Aziz, Sa'dun Shakir, Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Ahmad Husayn, ministers, the Iraqi ambassador in Amman, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Kittani Delivers Message to Perez de Cuellar
JN301956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] United Nations, 30 Nov (INA)—Iraq has directed the UN Security Council's attention to Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi's announcement that (?Iran's) UN delegate was not invited to discuss the

implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598. In a message delivered to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraq's permanent UN representative, 'Ismat Kittani, stressed the consistent nature of the aggressive [word indistinct] Iranian regime's stand, which rejects peace and insists on continuing the war as well as the killings, destruction, and bloodshed. Iraq urged the UN Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities in accordance with the UN Charter to prevent aggression and restore peace and security in the region.

Israeli Weapons Reportedly Arrive in Iran
JN281413 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA)—Reports from Tehran said today that Zionist enemy planes have secretly unloaded their cargo of weapons and military equipment at the Iranian airports of Tabriz and Mehrabad under the supervision and guard of the Iranian regime's henchmen. A report broadcast by Radio Mojahed, mouthpiece of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq opposition organization, monitored here today, said the Zionist planes arriving from Tel Aviv followed the route used by the Iranian airline company's planes and that they landed at these two airports.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations

Lloyds Confirms 2 Tankers Hit
JN301501 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] London, 30 Nov (INA)—Britain's Lloyds Insurance Company has confirmed that the Panamanian tanker *Stilikon* [name as received] was hit in its starboard side by an Iraqi missile off the Iranian coast on 27 November. It was hit during a raid launched by Iraqi fighters at 1438 GMT, 1738 local time. In a cable to the INA office in London a short while ago, Lloyds said the tanker was hit while sailing from Iran's Khark Island loaded with Iranian oil. Fire broke out in the crew's quarters. Lloyds pointed out that the tanker is operated by the London-based Troodos Shipping Company. Its empty weight is 96,747 tonnes and it was built in 1968.

An Iraqi military spokesman announced that Iraqi warplanes dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target off the Iranian coast on 27 November.

In a subsequent cable to the INA office in London this afternoon, Lloyds confirmed that the Iranian oil tanker *Khark 4* was hit by an Iraqi missile at 1400 GMT, 1700 local time, yesterday while sailing from Iran's Larak Island to Khark Island. Lloyds said the missile hit one side of the Iranian tanker, whose empty weight is 127,450 tonnes, which was built in 1973. Lloyds pointed out that the *Khark 4* is owned by the Iranian Tanker Company and is being operated by the London-based World Transportation Company.

An Iraqi military spokesman said Iraqi aircraft launched a successful raid against a second large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 1700 [1400 GMT] yesterday.

Iranian Losses Detailed

*JN301521 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA)—Iraqi fighter planes and helicopter gunships have continued to attack Iranian troop concentrations, personnel, and equipment, inflicting heavy losses on them through 106 raids in the operational sectors. An Iraqi military spokesman today said Iranian losses in various sectors totaled 13 killed; 3 ammunition dumps blown up; 2 tubular launchers, 2 machineguns, 1 60-mm mortar, 6 infantry positions, 2 weapon emplacements, and 1 vehicle destroyed; 1 vehicle and 1 bulldozer damaged; and 1 machinegun and 1 60-mm mortar captured.

Claims of Fighting Denied

*JN301640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1619 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA)—Iraq has denied Iranian claims about fighting in the northern border areas. A military spokesman told INA today that the Iranian claims of fighting in the border areas of Kirkuk, Irbil, and Dahuk are completely baseless. Regarding Iranian claims of bombing a petrochemical complex in Nineveh Governorate, the spokesman said such a complex does not exist. He asserted that two Iranian planes raided peasant houses in the Tall Kayf area in the Nineveh Governorate. The incident martyred one civilian and wounded two peasants.

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

*JN301700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA)—Iraq has denied Iranian claims of downing an Iraqi plane. In a statement to INA this evening, the military spokesman said the Iranian claims always lack evidence because they are fabricated and unrealistic.

Communique No 2,935

*JN301746 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1710 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Communique No 2,935 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces, which are struggling to champion justice and keep harm away from our country, daily confirm their overwhelming superiority over our covetous enemies. The results of their activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our heroic Air Force flew a total of 86 missions, striking at enemy units in the operational sectors and accomplishing the two heroic missions mentioned in Communique No 2,934 issued at noon today. All our aircraft then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. Our bold helicopter gunships inflicted new losses on the aggressors through 20 combat missions against scoundrels' concentrations and their equipment and weapons. The helicopter gunships then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. One vehicle and two 107-mm tubular launchers were destroyed, four enemy personnel were killed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the I Army Corps northern sector.

4. Two enemy personnel were killed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the Special I Army Corps sector—Allahu Akbar Forces.

5. One medium machinegun, one observation post, one weapon emplacement, and one B-10 gun were destroyed and one scoundrel was killed in the II Army Corps central sector.

6. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, one enemy heavy machinegun and three infantry positions were destroyed and one 60-mm mortar and one medium machinegun were found.

7. Two enemy personnel were killed, one personnel position was destroyed, and one bulldozer was damaged in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

8. One vehicle and one infantry position were destroyed and three enemy personnel were killed in the V Army Corps northern sector.

9. One large vehicle was damaged, two scoundrels were killed, and one machinegun and one infantry position were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

10. One 60-mm mortar position was destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the V Army Corps sector.

11. Last night and today, the vile Khomeyniites shelled residential areas in the steadfast city of Basra and in the villages of Qal'at Dizah and Sirwan with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling martyred one child and one civilian and wounded seven citizens, including one woman and four children. Mercy to our two martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 November 1987

Oil Minister on Quotas, Saudi Pipeline

PM301555 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
25 Nov 87 pp 1-2

[Report on an interview with Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Shalabi by Al-Sir Sayyid Ahmad in Riyadh on 24 November: "Iraqi Oil Minister Tells *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*: We Back Saudi Position and We Demand Iran's Quota"]

[Text] Riyadh—Iraq has declared its support for the Saudi position which calls for oil prices to be maintained at the \$18 level until the end of next year. This came in an exclusive interview by *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* with Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Shalabi, who was on a 1-day visit to Riyadh yesterday. The minister said: "We support Saudi Arabia in its stand on the oil market, which cannot endure a price increase." The minister met with Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Nazir and ministry officials. He left yesterday afternoon.

Al-Shalabi said the purpose of his visit was an exchange of views and consultations, especially since important oil conferences are on the horizon, such as the OAPEC conference scheduled for 28 November and the OPEC conference on 9 December. He said there was agreement of views on both sides and that coordination between them was continuing.

The minister added that the Iraqi position, concerning its participation in any agreement concluded by OPEC, remains the same, requesting a quota equal to any quota assigned to Iran—which is the declared position since last year. The minister said that since Iraq currently produces 2.75 million barrels a day and Iran's quota is 2,369,000 barrels, his country is prepared, for the sake of OPEC unity and oil market stability, to come down to the Iranian quota on condition that all OPEC member states, including Iran, agree to the principle of Iraq-Iran quota parity. So, any violation by any state of the agreement reached by OPEC will absolve Iraq of its commitment to that agreement. However, the minister emphasized that the last precondition is included in the agreement which is presently in force.

Al-Shalabi said that despite the fact that Iraq has not joined the agreement which presently governs OPEC because it has not gotten the quota it wants, it has nevertheless linked its prices to the pricing structure employed by the organization and will continue to link its prices to OPEC prices even if it were not to join the agreement at the next meeting.

The minister was asked about the possibility of raising the ceiling at the next meeting from its present level of 16.6 million barrels a day. His answer was that the present production is greater than the fixed ceiling—which is an actual fact. Although estimates, which go up to 19 million barrels a day, differ, his own estimates indicate that the present production of OPEC states is no less than 18 million barrels a day (I believe that if the

market were able to currently absorb this quantity then there is the possibility of raising the ceiling. Consequently, the matter ought to be reviewed. However, any increase is also linked to the matter of prices.)

Concerning the proposed plan to monitor member states' production, Minister al-Shalabi said that it is assumed that all the states which are signatories to the OPEC agreement will accept a particular formula to monitor the production of all 13 member states and not just individual states. Concerning expectations of the success of this plan, especially since OPEC had tried over 2 years ago to set up a similar system—which has not proved to be very successful—the minister replied that the project has not crystallized into its final form yet and will be discussed at the next conference. However, the proposal in principle appears so far to be more serious since it includes on-site inspection.

Asked if Iraq will be reactivating the oil pipeline which passes through Syria if the present active mediation moves between the two countries were to succeed and if Syria were to agree to open the pipeline, the minister replied that the situation will be studied in due course in the light of Iraq's capacities in this regard. However, it is not possible to give more details. It is known that since the closure of the pipeline in 1982 Iraq has succeeded in finding new outlets through Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Jordan, which has nearly brought its exporting capacity up to that which existed before the start of the war with Iran.

Last September Iraq signed an agreement to start work on the second phase of the oil pipeline which passes through Saudi Arabia and terminates near the Red Sea port of Yanbu'. The minister said the work is progressing according to plan and that it is under way at both ends. Hopefully, it is expected to be completed on schedule in exactly 2 years from the date of signing and will have a capacity of 1.65 million barrels a day.

Concerning the future of the oil market, the minister said the responsibility for defending it should not be left to just one state or to OPEC, but that the rest of the non-OPEC producing states should also participate.

Hisham Nazir put forward the same position in a lecture at a U.S. Petroleum Association conference held in Chicago at the beginning of this month.

Trade Minister Leads Delegation to Brazil

JN301157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA)—Iraqi Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih left for Brazil today at the head of an economic delegation. The Iraqi minister said the visit comes at the invitation of Foreign Minister Roberto De Abreu Sodre, head of the Brazilian side to the joint Iraqi-Brazilian committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation. He added that the talks which the

Iraqi delegation will hold there will focus on developing and expanding trade and economic cooperation, which witnessed tangible growth in the past 2 years and which achieved fruitful results in the service of the interests of the two countries' peoples.

Ba'th Group Returns From Hungary, Poland
JN281626 Baghdad INA in English 1422 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 28 INA—The Arab Ba'th Socialist Party (ABSP) delegation led by 'Adnan Salman, deputy responsible of the external relations bureau at the ABSP's pan-Arab leadership, returned here today after a several days visit to Hungary and Poland. Speaking to INA on arrival Mr Salman said the delegation held party talks with officials at the Central Committees of the Hungarian Socialist Party and the Polish United Workers Party on existence relations between the ABSP and the Hungarian and Polish parties. He said that a protocol for cooperation was signed between the ABSP and the Hungarian Socialist Party for the years 1988-89 covering exchange of party delegations and scholarships granted to each other.

Official Receives Kurdish Party Delegation
JN302037 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 Nov (INA)—'Izzat Ibrahim, deputy secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, has received Ahmad Muhammad Sa'id al-Atrushi, acting secretary of the Kurdish Democratic

Party [KDP], and members of its Political Bureau on the occasion of ending the work of the KDP's 11th national conference and electing a new leadership.

The KDP acting secretary conveyed the thanks and gratitude of the KDP's leadership, members, and supporters to President Saddam Husayn for his kind patronage. They pledged to struggle under his banner to defend Iraq, confront the Iranian aggression and foil its intentions, enhance the autonomy march, and safeguard national unity. [passage omitted]

'Izzat Ibrahim urged the masses and members of the KDP Political Bureau to work for consolidating awareness and to struggle using the sound national option of all Iraqis, namely, the option of national unity, to defend Iraq and confront and foil aggression.

INLA Carries Out Two Operations in Al-Ahvaz
JN291848 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Sources of the Iranian opposition movement have said the two operations carried out by the Iranian National Liberation Army [INLA] in Al-Ahvaz Province recently killed or wounded 413 troops from the Iranian regime and the Khomeyni Guard.

Radio Mojahed, mouthpiece of the Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, said today that during these two operations a number of tanks, military vehicles, and fortifications were destroyed. The radio added that INLA forces captured quantities of weapons and equipment as well as 113 troops of the Khomeyni forces.

IDF Soldier Slightly Wounded by Fire From Egypt
TA011323 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1310 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] An IDF soldier was slightly injured in the hand early this morning by fire opened from Egyptian territory at an IDF patrol near the security fence north of Rafah. This has been reported by the IDF spokesman.

After midnight last night an IDF patrol discovered a hole in the security fence. While the hole was being checked, two grenades were thrown and light weapons fire was opened. An IDF soldier was slightly injured and evacuated to the hospital. Footprints from Egyptian territory leading to the fence and back were found in the ensuing check. An announcement has been relayed to the Egyptians.

Egyptian State Firms To 'Cease' Bilateral Trade
TA291405 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
29 Nov 87 p 4

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] In the headline of its latest issue, *Al-Ahali*, the Cairo weekly published by the Egyptian opposition, reveals that "the Egyptian Government has instructed government-owned industrial plants and commercial companies to cease trading with Israel following the renewal of relations with Arab states."

According to the magazine, in its next session the Egyptian cabinet will examine a secret report prepared by the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade which proposes ways to normalize trade with Israel in light of the renewed relations with the Arab world. Egyptian Government officials estimate that Arab firms will demand that Cairo cease its economic and trade connections with Israel in return for the resumption of their economic activity in Egypt.

It is now feared in Cairo that government-owned companies which used to purchase eggs, poultry, agricultural produce, and other items from Israel will now be entered on the "black list." Therefore, the report recommends that henceforth all trade relations with Israel be based on "informal contacts" with private companies only, and that it should be under the indirect supervision of the Egyptian Economy and Foreign Trade Ministry.

Syria on Alert Against Retaliatory Attack
TA011157 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 1 Dec 87 pp 1, 12

[Report by Paris correspondent Edwin Eytan and 'Uzi Mahanaymi, Dani Sade, and Roni Shaged]

[Excerpt] "An Israeli strike on Syria or on Syrian forces in Lebanon in retaliation for the attack on the military base in Qiryat Shemona last week is expected any minute."

This was stated yesterday to a group of Arab newspaper editors who are currently visiting France during a briefing held at the Syrian Embassy in Paris.

Officials from the Syrian Embassy said that Syrian troops on Syrian and Lebanese soil alike have been put on alert "but there has not been a mobilization so as not to give Israel an excuse to launch a large-scale operation." [passage omitted]

Rabin Addresses Knesset on Hang Glider Attack
TA301538 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1405 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Address by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to the Knesset plenum—live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset, last Wednesday, on 25 November, a terrorist belonging to Ahmad Jibril's organization entered an Army camp in northern Israel, where he carried out a lethal attack. The terrorist, along with his comrade or comrades who failed to penetrate Israeli territory, left from the organization's base in Syria, crossed Lebanon, and then took off toward Israel via motorized hang gliders. Six officers and soldiers were killed in that operation and eight others were wounded.

Knesset members, I join you in sending condolences to the families who lost their dear ones in this murderous terrorist operation. This is a truly difficult moment for all of us, but it is doubly rough on the families who lost the most precious thing in the world. With you, I send wishes for a speedy and full recovery to the wounded soldiers, and words of encouragement to their families.

During the past 2 and 1/2 years, since the IDF redeployed along the Lebanese border, the terrorist organizations have made many attempts—by land, sea, and air—to penetrate our territory in a bid to carry out terrorist attacks. Until this latest incident, throughout this extended period of time, they managed to enter Israel only twice, and in both cases the terrorists involved were killed before they were able to carry out their scheme.

The last occurrence in which a terrorist succeeded in penetrating our airspace was 7 years ago. In March 1981 a motorized hang glider penetrated as far as Haifa Bay, where it dropped bombs. The glider then ran out of fuel, landed, and fell into our forces' hands.

Mr Speaker, Knesset members, the security policy which we have maintained for the past 2 and 1/2 years along our border with Lebanon is based on three elements. The first is the IDF's deployment, which includes a variety of defense systems to sabotage attacks, and which relies on thousands of soldiers and officers who maintain a tough and exhausting defense routine day in and day out. The second component is the security strip, which relies chiefly on the South Lebanese Army [SLA] plus the

support it gets from the IDF. This component constitutes a guarantee for peace and safety for the population of southern Lebanon. It serves as well as a barrier providing the northern Galilee with a broader early-warning and defensive buffer. The third element is the freedom of action enjoyed by our forces to take offensive, preemptive, or retaliatory action against the terrorist organizations and their bases in Lebanon.

What has the result of this defense policy been over these past 2 and 1/2 years? Despite the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon 2 and 1/2 years ago, the north has been enjoying peace and security. The population's fear that terrorism might once again reign is over. Life in Qiryat Shemona, Ramim, Nahariyya, Shelomi, Hanita, Metulla, Dovev, Avivim, and Misgav 'Am is back to normal. For 2 and 1/2 years no Israeli civilian has been killed by an attack staged by terrorists from Lebanon. This achievement, however, came at a price.

During this period, 21 IDF soldiers were killed, and 6 other officers and enlisted men have been added to that toll following the latest attack; 103 enlisted men and officers were wounded; 2 IDF soldiers were kidnapped by Hizballah; and 1 navigator fell captive in the hands of Amal.

The SLA, too, paid a heavy price: 78 of its soldiers were killed and 207 wounded. This is the dear and painful price paid by the IDF and the SLA to maintain peace and security along Israel's northern border and to implement the Israeli Government's policy along that border.

The terrorist organizations, too, paid with lives. Between May 1985 and yesterday, some 340 terrorists belonging to the various organizations—Palestinian and Shi'ite—were killed, and at least 310 of them were wounded by the IDF. These occurred in initiated operations, as well as in preemptive and retaliatory missions carried out north of the security strip, inside it, and along Israel's border.

Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset, war torn though it is, dozens of terrorist organizations currently operate in Lebanon. They are made up of approximately 10,000 Palestinian terrorists and, of course, thousands more from the Shi'ite organizations of Hizballah and Amal. To the best of our knowledge, three of the Palestinian organizations—including Jibril's—have aerial units. Jibril's headquarters and bases, including the air base, are located on Syrian soil.

Knesset members, two hang gliders, perhaps more, were launched on Wednesday, 25 November. They took off from the Al-Biq'a' region in the direction of Israel. According to the information we have, the hang glider that penetrated Israeli airspace cruised at a relatively low altitude for approximately 50 km, overflying the security strip. An IDF unit—which incidentally belongs to a platoon from the NAHAL Brigade—stationed in the northern part of the security strip reported hearing noise

emanating from the engine of an aircraft overflying it and heading south. From that moment onward, the military network of the Northern Command followed standing orders and procedures, which are designed to handle the response to a terrorist infiltration by air. Shortly thereafter, the Northern Command's ground forces, as well as helicopter gunships and combat aircraft, were activated. Simultaneously, alert and reinforcement procedures began and the civilian settlements—and there are a few dozen settlements in the north—were notified, as were IDF bases, naturally.

And yet, despite this extensive activity, 30 minutes after the first alert, a terrorist landed his hang glider near an Army camp in the vicinity of the Qiryat Shemona-Dafna road. He started walking along the highway, opened fire at an IDF van, hit and killed the officer behind the wheel, and wounded the female soldier who was with him.

The terrorist then proceeded toward the nearby camp, where the NAHAL Brigade headquarters is located, and passed the sentry post at the gate of the camp. The terrorist opened fire and hurled grenades at a group of soldiers in a tent in the center of the encampment, killing another five enlisted men and officers and wounding seven others—all from the NAHAL Brigade. One soldier from that unit, who was injured by that terrorist's fire, shot the terrorist and killed him.

Even though the terrorist was killed, Northern Command units continued to comb the area and the next morning spotted another hang glider in the southern part of the security strip north of the border fence. The terrorist who flew that hang glider was killed by shots fired by an IDF unit.

Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset, despite its desire to draw the necessary conclusions and learn lessons from this painful and terrible incident, the IDF has not yet completed the process of conducting debriefings and investigations. I can, however, reach the following conclusions: First, the overall defense policy aimed at guaranteeing the peace and well-being of the inhabitants of Galilee has passed the test. Nevertheless, our forces' modes of operation within the overall framework of this policy should be adjusted to the changing circumstances and events.

The second conclusion is that the IDF units have always done their very best to prevent the penetration of terrorists into Israel by land, sea, or air, and will continue to do so. Still, individual cases in which terrorists will succeed in penetrating Israeli territory will occur. The IDF's standing orders and the long-prevailing procedures are designed precisely to address this problem and make sure the proper response is made to the penetration of outsiders. All the individual terrorists who succeeded in infiltrating Israeli territory over the past 2 and 1/2 years were annihilated by IDF soldiers.

The third conclusion is that although the alert reached the entire area, including the NAHAL Brigade's headquarters, well in advance, not all the steps warranted by orders and procedures were followed in that camp, leading to the serious results as we know them. All IDF soldiers, male or female, including those not deployed in combat units, who are stationed in IDF command posts or other installations, must and can defend their bases and installations against terrorists. There is no room for leniency, nor will there be any extenuating circumstances regarding this requirement. In view of the event, the IDF's General Staff Command has already issued instructions for all IDF soldiers throughout Israel and the territories controlled by it to study and drill in the standing orders.

The IDF's General Staff Command and the various commands have instituted special details to supervise the implementation of the standing orders throughout the IDF.

The fourth conclusion has to do with the decisions regarding personal responsibility for the painful outcome of the attack. In making these conclusions the IDF will observe the law and the procedures as warranted.

Knesset members, as I approach the end of my address, I would like to reemphasize that this was a serious event. We will not deny this, and will not pretend that nothing happened and calmly proceed with our daily affairs. We will, therefore, carry out an exhaustive and thorough investigation of the case. We will likewise draw the necessary conclusions and learn the lessons fully.

At the same time, we should always bear in mind that the peace and security prevailing in the north have been attained thanks to those thousands of soldiers deployed on land and sea and in the air, who are constantly on guard to ensure a normal life in the northern settlements. These thousands of soldiers, among them soldiers belonging to the NAHAL Brigade, who are engaged in this mission are worthy of the full appreciation and gratitude of the people of Israel.

As always, throughout the various stages of the episode, all the inhabitants of the north demonstrated their steadfastness and determination to continue to live and build new homes in this part of the land. Let me take this opportunity to reiterate my appreciation for this steadfastness. I am convinced that together with the defense forces, these civilians will be able to withstand the attempts by the various terrorist organizations to violate the peace and disrupt the normal flow of life along our northern border with Lebanon.

Shamir on Syrian Role in Glider Attack; 'Awwad
TAJ02014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today that by identifying itself with last week's hang glider attack on the northern border, Syria has shown herself to be responsible for the action. The prime minister was speaking at a luncheon in Tel Aviv.

Shamir also told his audience that the national unity government is obligated to preserve the Sabbath status quo in Jerusalem. Sabra Chartrand reports:

Syria, the PLO, and even Egypt, have praised 'Ahmad Jibril since he revealed that he masterminded last week's hang glider attack in the north. Prime Minister Shamir told a group of Israeli journalists this afternoon. The Egyptian media, which for a long while has been negative towards Israel, joined those in the Arab world who had previously boycotted and deplored Jibril, Shamir said. While there may not be a direct connection between Syria and Jibril's organization, the PFLP, Shamir said Syrian reaction to the attack is proof enough for him.

[Begin Shamir recording] Well, I do not think there is any importance in deciding whether or not there is direct responsibility. It is clear now from all the Syrian authorities' statements that Syria identifies itself with these activities, and I think this is enough. [end recording]

The prime minister addressed a number of subjects during his speech to the journalists and the question and answer session that followed. Several of the questions focused on Shamir as the acting minister of the interior and he was pressed to make clear his stand on the Sabbath dispute in Jerusalem. The preservation of the status quo, Shamir said, was one of the obligations of the national unity government. We need a Sabbath which has a special Jewish spirit, Shamir declared, this is the Jewish philosophy, he said.

As minister of interior, Shamir was also asked about Mubarak 'Awwad, the Palestinian activist facing deportation from Israel for overstaying his tourist visa. Shamir stressed that 'Awwad is in Israel without permit and that the government is within its rights to expel him. He said a decision on the 'Awwad case will be made in a few days.

Peres on Glider Attack, Syria, U.S. Relations
TA010747 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Mikha Friedman and political correspondent 'Oz Frankel in Peres' office—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning to you.

[Peres] Good morning.

[Friedman] In the past few months Syria's name has been mentioned extensively in the context of negotiations in our region. Al-Asad was even cited as a possible participant in an international conference. Now, however, Syria has come out in support of Ahmad Jibril's organization, which carried out the murderous terrorist attack in the Galilee panhandle. So, where do you think Syria is headed?

[Peres] I do not think Syria is headed for negotiations, certainly not at this time. I believe that, if nothing else, the Syrians would like to see what happens with the negotiations between Israel and Jordan, and only later decide which path to take. As for the question of terrorism, it does not surprise me because the Syrians submitted a proposal to the United Nations to distinguish between what they term unacceptable terrorism and—of course, I am saying this half-jokingly—acceptable terrorism. They actually want to legitimize operations such as that which took place in the north, and this is their avowed position.

[Friedman] Would you say that the attack in the north constitutes a Syrian provocation aimed at driving a wedge between us and Egypt, just to cite one example? Prime Minister Shamir has pointed to certain expressions of joy witnessed in Egypt.

[Peres] I think the terrorist attack is serious enough in itself and does not call for gratuitous embellishments. I believe that the attack was planned and carried out by Jibril's dangerous and ruthless organization and that the Syrians knew about it, but I think the primary purpose was to attack Israel.

[Friedman] Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel is next to you, sir. 'Oz, over to you.

[Frankel] Mr Peres, going back to last Wednesday's attack: The question of responsibility has been discussed at length over the past week. Some would say the issue has been dealt with excessively. You once served as defense minister. Where would you say the limit is? Is there a formula for finding the median between the rank and file and the top echelon?

[Peres] I believe there is. I would like to say that anybody analyzing events along the northern border over the past 3 years must first of all express deep appreciation to the soldiers, officers, and top echelons of the IDF and the defense establishment for having actually almost hermetically sealed the border on land and sea. I say almost, because there is nothing absolute in these matters. Of course, when we are caught by surprise there is a casualty toll.

Generally speaking, I am not one of those who hastens to blame people. Mishaps occur here and there which unfortunately take a great toll on human lives and we should learn from our mistakes. Nevertheless, it seems to me that, overall, the system worked well, fast, and in an organized manner.

[Frankel] Yesterday Minister Sharon blamed the government's policy. He said neither the sentry nor the commander of the Northern Command are to blame, but the lack of a clear-cut government policy on terrorism.

[Peres] Well, did such incidents not occur when Minister Sharon was in charge? There were very serious incidents, such as the murderous attack on the Herzliya highway in the middle of Israel in clear daylight. Should the political level be blamed for it?

[Friedman] With your permission, we will go back to the Syrian issue. A briefing was held yesterday at the Syrian Embassy in Paris in which it was said that an Israeli strike against Syria or Syrian forces in Lebanon in retaliation for the attack in Qiryat Shemona is expected any minute. Do you want to calm the Syrians and tell them they have nothing to fear?

[Peres] I want neither to allay their fears nor to warn them. I think there are some cases when keeping mum is not detrimental. I certainly do not want to threaten or voice soothing words. There is no need for that.

[Frankel] Let us move to the question of the international peace conference. At the beginning of the week, U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci was quoted as having voiced doubt about making progress in this way. This morning we heard another statement in a similar vein from a senior U.S. Administration official, who said in a briefing to journalists that a breakthrough on the issue of Soviet Jewry should not be expected in the wake of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. Do you foresee some slackening on the part of the U.S. Administration concerning the peace process? Are the Americans fulfilling your expectations? They do not seem thrilled about pursuing the formula you have been working on for the past 1 to 2 years.

[Peres] Even if I only were to quote Frank Carlucci, he actually puts the blame on our doorstep. He says that one of the reasons a breakthrough should not be expected is the paralysis afflicting Israel. I am not in charge of the U.S. Administration and that is not where our argument is taking place. The argument is in our midst. We reached a tie, and the question now is whether this is good or bad. Two years will go by without any peace efforts. Is this good or bad for Israel? Is this what we want? Is this a reason to rejoice and gloat? In my opinion, there will be no peace efforts for 2 years, but there will be efforts from another direction: the arms race will accelerate and Israel will be blamed once again.

Although I do not think one issue should be linked to the other, this paralysis will also be reflected in our relations with the Soviet Union as far as the Jewish question is concerned. We must make up our mind between a policy of paralysis, freeze, and stagnation and a policy that involves continuous searches and initiative. We should decide what is best for Israel and its future.

Sometimes, I fail to understand the joy in certain circles. Any serious person should ask himself: Is there a chance for any Arab country to come to peace negotiations without an international opening? In my opinion, there is absolutely no chance of this. Some say that were it not

for my position the Arabs would come. Why did they not come for 20 years? Why did they not come when we were not part of the government?

[Frankel] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was here 2 months ago and he proposed a new formula which, if I am not mistaken, was acceptable to Shamir but was rejected by the Arab and Soviet sides. Can Shamir today be accused of rejecting peace?

[Peres] First of all, I did not accuse anybody. All right, this just shows that the move was unsuccessful. The Arabs insist on an international opening. Such an opening was once held in Geneva. Also, I am not free to elaborate on Shultz' proposal. Were I free to discuss it, I would analyze where and why it was blocked. I am not spreading accusations, but rather asking genuine questions: What do we want? Paralysis, freeze, nothing but spreading gratuitous accusations? Or do we want to resume the peace efforts regardless of whether Washington is or is not thrilled about it? Washington has other topics on its agenda, and it is not Washington's future that is at stake.

[Friedman] With your permission, sir, we will move on to other issues on our agenda, such as religious-secular relations. Minister Yitzhaq Peretz of SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardis] said he emerged encouraged from his two meetings with the prime minister and with you, the vice prime minister. Does Peretz' good mood indicate that Shim'on Peres will support the legislation of the Authorization Law [giving municipalities the authority to enact by-laws on the opening and closure of places of entertainment on the Sabbath]?

[Peres] Not really. I would like to make the situation clear. I told Mr Peretz my position that we are bound to a status quo on religious affairs. As a member of the Labor Party and its chairman, I will do everything in my power to respect everything pertaining to the Sabbath in Jerusalem. Rabbi Peretz and his religious colleagues proposed the so-called Authorization Law. What I promised is to check whether this proposal is compatible with or violates the status quo.

[Friedman] Have you reached any conclusions?

[Peres] Not yet. The matter is still being checked. I also asked the attorney general's legal opinion. This is definitely a serious matter, and I will not voice any opinion before I have studied the subject.

[Frankel] The Cabinet began discussing next year's state budget yesterday and, if I am not mistaken, this is the first budget in the last 3 years that has been planned and drafted without your active participation. What can be inferred from this fact?

[Peres] Generally speaking, what can be inferred is that this budget tries to ensure the continuation of economic stability. Stability is important on its own merit, and I believe real efforts should be made to avoid an inflationary crisis which it will be much more difficult to get out of than the previous time.

Some things bother me, two in particular. The first is the condition of the productive sector, especially the electronics and metallurgic industries which are mainly geared to dollar-quoted exports. Today, the dollar is weak and the Israeli shekel is strong. In other words, workers are paid in a strong currency while in exchange we are receiving weak dollars which are losing their value. This is a very serious problem. The second issue that bothers me is the condition of the agricultural sector. I think our conduct in this respect has been unwise. Every country supports its farmers and its agricultural sector. In Israel, this is not just an economic matter as is the case in France, the FRG, and the United States. In our country this is also a matter of principle, a Zionist value. We will lose the land which our ancestors tried to acquire and cultivate for many generations. I do not understand what has happened to us. Let us say that this costs us another 100 million shekels—that is not what will make or break us.

[Friedman] You did not mention the question of education and health, which all the ministers of your party seem to have made a hue and cry about.

[Peres] Look, I do not propose that we cut the budget for health and education. In past years we effected very large cuts and I do not see the need for additional cuts. The Treasury argues that it is not proposing any cutbacks, but rather the collection of payment for services. This is rather difficult, because it would require the Histadrut's consent. As you know, I think that economic changes should be attained through agreement and coordination, because the alternative is labor strikes, confrontations, and idleness.

Another thing I would like to see in the budget is, perhaps, another effort to further curb inflation. I discussed this matter with the finance minister when the budget was presented to me, but this has yet to be discussed in the Cabinet. As for other points I raised in our meeting, the finance minister said he would try to meet us halfway. Those points are: allocating a supplementary agricultural budget to help this sector out of its difficulties; fulfilling our promises regarding university education—if I am not mistaken, this involves an additional 17 million shekels this year; and including a clause about the development of the Negev, although I did not ask that the money come from the state budget but rather that we try to raise it outside Israel.

[Friedman] We had many other questions but our time has run out. Perhaps next time we will ask which of the three candidates for chairman of the Zionist Federation

you support, and what you think about the national unity government as a campaign slogan. At this point, however, we will just thank you, Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

[Peres] Thank you.

Peres' Office Clarifies Carlucci Remarks
TA301812 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1700 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The foreign minister's office has learned that the remarks attributed to the U.S. secretary of defense—that the international conference plan stands no chance—were made before he entered office as secretary of defense and prior to the Amman summit. The foreign minister's office has reported that U.S. Administration representatives explained this morning that U.S. policy has not changed over the past 2 and 1/2 years and the United States still supports an examination of the conference idea.

Greek Minister Arrives on 'Historic' Visit
TA301216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] For the first time a Greek foreign minister is in Israel on an official visit. Karolos Papoulias' visit comes as Greece prepares to take over the presidency of the European Community Council of Ministers. Sabra Chartrand reports.

[Begin Chartrand recording] The arrival of the Greek foreign minister was heralded by both Papoulias himself and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres who greeted him as a historic event in Greek-Israeli relations. While neither side said the visit will necessarily lead to the upgrading of the diplomatic missions in Greece and Israel to full embassies, the Greek foreign minister said he had no doubt the subject would be on his agenda. [Passage omitted] [end recording]

Peres, Papoulias Hold Talks
TA301918 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1830 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] In a meeting this evening between Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, and his guest, Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, the two agreed to improve bilateral ties in all spheres, including the diplomatic sphere. Our correspondent 'Oz Frankel points out that to date the two countries have not exchanged full diplomatic representations. The visitor invited Mr Peres to Greece. An agreement was reached to establish a joint committee on economic cooperation, and the two also discussed the situation in the Middle East, the Persian Gulf, Greek-Turkish relations, and other areas of potential cooperation between Greece and Israel.

Peres, Papoulias Statements

NC301859 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
1800 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Report by Andonios Kokorikos, Athens Radio correspondent in Israel]

[Text] During their first meeting in Jerusalem this afternoon, Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres limited themselves to an exchange of views. During the 2-hour private meeting, the ministers discussed both bilateral relations in all sectors as well as international developments with particular stress on the Middle East issue.

After their lengthy private meeting, Papoulias and Peres joined a meeting of the two delegations, which had already started parallel deliberations.

Speaking to newsmen, Papoulias said that all issues, including Greek recognition of Israel, were discussed.

Answering a question on whether he hopes that after the conclusion of his talks the two countries' missions will be of a higher rank, Papoulias said that the Greek Government is considering this problem and will make a decision in time.

Papoulias described his exchange of views with Peres as extremely interesting, sincere, and indepth. The exchange was extremely useful, he added, because I received a first-hand briefing on the Israeli Government's views and on how it sees the next steps on the road to a permanent settlement of the Middle East issue.

The Greek minister also underlined Greece's insistence on the EC decision for a more intensive and active effort to reach such a solution. He stressed that the exchange of views was very useful because Greece will become a member of the Troika of the Community on 1 January, and will assume the Community's presidency on 1 July. Papoulias added that he will brief the ministerial council in Athens on his talks in Israel.

For his part, Peres said that the Papoulias visit symbolizes the improvement of Greek-Israeli relations on all levels. I believe that there is progress in all sectors, on diplomatic, economic, and scientific levels, Peres added.

Naturally, he noted, some time will be needed, but we are not speaking of years, but of months. I will be very happy if the Greek Government, which maintains relations with many Arab countries, explains Israel's positions, because many points about our country's desire for peace have been distorted. Let us not forget, Peres concluded, that this is the first official visit by a Greek Government representative at this level and, as such, opens up a new chapter.

Papoulias on Talks With Peres

NC010647 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
2200 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Report by Andonios Kokorikos, Athens Radio correspondent in Israel]

[Excerpts] Israel looks to Greece to play the role of mediator with Arab countries in order to bridge the gap that exists between the two sides in the search for a viable solution to the Middle East problem. This conclusion is drawn from the lengthy talks in Jerusalem between Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. [passage omitted]

Speaking late this evening to newsmen accompanying him, Papoulias said during his talks special weight was given to developments in the Middle East problem following the Amman meeting and to Israel's position on the role which Egypt could play. Papoulias briefed his Israeli counterpart on Greek positions, insisting on the need for an international conference on the Middle East. He also informed Peres about our national issues, the Cyprus issue, and the Aegean. Answering a newsman's question on whether there was any Israeli pressure for Greece to recognize that country diplomatically, Papoulias replied negatively. [passage omitted].

Peres on Advantage of Ties

TA010641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias called for extending relations between their countries despite their political differences. The two men were at a dinner in honor of Papoulias, the first Greek foreign minister ever to visit Israel. Greece's good ties with the Arab states, Peres said, could work to Israel's advantage.

[Begin Peres recording] It is an advantage, and we think that your good relations with the Arab countries is in no way a contradiction to our wish to make peace with the Arab countries and even to enjoy your own relations with the Arab countries to achieve this goal. [end recording]

For his part, Papoulias said that the stronger rival in the Middle East dispute must take the initiative for peace. Our reporter says that at the last moment Papoulias changed the text in his speech and left out a portion of his prepared text that called for an Israeli withdrawal from the territories. Instead, he called for the implementation of UN resolutions.

Both Peres and Papoulias pointed out the cooperation of the Greek and Jewish peoples during the Holocaust. Peres' father survived being captured by the Germans and attributed this to Greek partisans fighting the Nazis. In his youth, Papoulias served with the partisans.

Papoulias Meets With Shamir

TA011054 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The Greek foreign minister who is currently visiting Israel believes the time has come for his government to recognize Israel de jure, and he assumes that the Athens Government will soon discuss the matter. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Karolos Papoulias made these remarks this morning in a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Mr Shamir told the visiting minister that Israel respects Greece's traditional friendship with the Arab countries, and that as a result Greece can play a role in the political process in the region if it maintains similar relations with Israel. It will be able to persuade the Arabs to change their position and negotiate peace with Israel. The prime minister invited his Greek counterpart, Andreas Papandreou, to visit Israel. Minister Papoulias will confer with the families of soldiers missing since the Lebanese war.

Japan's Kuriyama Holds Talks With Shamir, Peres

TA271305 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama today. The Japanese guest came to Israel yesterday after visiting several Arab capitals. Political sources in Jerusalem noted that this is the first time a senior Japanese official has included Israel on his itinerary for a Middle East tour.

The Japanese official told the prime minister that during his visit in the region he became convinced that progress has been made toward an arrangement between Israel and moderate Arab countries. He also noted that there has been a rapprochement between Israel and Japan over the past 2 years.

This morning the guest met with Foreign Minister Peres and clarified that his country supports an international peace conference. He also met with Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir and they discussed how to further bilateral cooperation.

Husayn Leaves for 'Working Visit' in Iraq
JN301113 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn left Amman for Baghdad at noon today on a working visit to the Republic of Iraq. During the visit, his majesty will hold talks with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn on current developments in the Arab world. Their talks will be held in light of the resolutions of the historic extraordinary Arab summit and its positive results to achieve Arab solidarity, maintain Arab order, and reinforce Arab relations in the service of higher Arab interests. His majesty was seen off by Crown Prince Hasan, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Royal Court senior officials, and the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Amman. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i accompanied his majesty.

Returns After Short Visit

JN301848 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland this evening at the end of a short working visit to the Republic of Iraq. During this visit, his majesty held talks with His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. The two leaders held a session of talks this afternoon. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and Jordanian Ambassador to Iraq Hilmi al-Lawzi attended the session on the Jordanian side. Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; and Ahmad Husayn al-Samarra'i, chief of the presidential office, attended on the Iraqi side.

The talks, held within the framework of the coordination and consultations between the two fraternal countries, dealt with current developments in the Arab region in light of the historic Amman summit and its positive results in attaining Arab solidarity, safeguarding the Arab order, and entrenching intra-Arab relations in the service of the supreme pan-Arab interest. The talks also dealt with the unique fraternal relations between the two countries and areas of joint cooperation in service of the fraternal people's interests.

The talks were interrupted by a working lunch His Excellency President Saddam Husayn hosted in His Majesty King Husayn's honor. The working lunch was attended by the members of both delegations.

His majesty was accorded an official sendoff. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn was at the head of those who saw his majesty off. Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; RCC members; ministers; the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman were also present to bid his majesty farewell.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the chief of staff, and senior Royal Hashemite Court officials were present at the airport to welcome his majesty upon his return. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i returned with his majesty.

Prince Hasan on Gulf War, U.S. Presence
JN301359 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
30 Nov 87 p 5

["Full text" of speech delivered by Crown Prince Hasan at the opening of Euro-Arab Dialogue III in Amman on 29 November]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The Amman summit marks a turning point in the history of inter-Arab relations. The reconciliation between Iraq and Syria and the shared perception of the need for an early implementation of 598 must be seen as a significant facet of the Arab World's resolve to end the senseless slaughter, wanton destruction and waste of precious human and material resources. The war must come to an end as all wars do; and the sooner the better, so that these resources can be better deployed towards reconstruction and development. [passage omitted]

Proud as we are of our Arab achievement at Amman, we were just as heartened to see that the peace machinery of the world body has been given a new lease of life. Superpowers cooperation and the unanimous vote on Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Gulf war has injected a fresh impetus in the work of the U.N., and given us a new hope that at last the two superpowers have agreed to grapple with world problems in earnest and jointly. Their collaboration in this field is certainly long over-due.

We Arabs have always impressed on various figures and representatives of the U.S. and the USSR the desperate need for such joint action to defuse the highly explosive situation in the Middle East, and assist in the resolution of all outstanding conflicts in our troubled region. The Arab summit resolution in support of 598 is a clear indication that the Arab World in its entirety demands the implementation of these provisions.

We have long recognised that the danger implicit in the Gulf war goes beyond the two immediate adversaries: Iraq and Iran. It threatens the stability and the security of the entire region. The insidious perils of fragmentation and radicalisation entailed in the fundamentalist religious campaigns undermine the very fabric of sovereign state system in the Middle East. Moreover, the strategic importance of the Gulf and the magnitude of its oil resources, coupled with the threat of escalation of the war has led to the deployment of considerable naval forces: American, Soviet and European, adding to the risks of touching off a wider conflagration.

The presence of these naval forces is of considerable interest and concern to all of us. What is so mystifying is the purpose of this presence. No one in the U.S., or in

Europe for that matter, has asked the question as to what it is that the American naval task force in particular is supposed to be doing in the Gulf—there are basically four questions:

1. Is it there to protect Kuwaiti ships?
2. Is it there to guarantee the freedom of navigation in international waters?
3. Is it there to contain Iran's war and its quest for hegemony over its neighbours?
4. Is it there to check Communist penetration of the region and limit Soviet influence?

One thing is clear. It cannot be all these things at the same time. While the protection of Kuwaiti ships is necessary and desirable it becomes rather paradoxical to do that, and allow American-owned ships to be attacked by the Iranian revolutionary guards. Moreover, to guarantee freedom of navigation is not compatible with the containment of the Iranian war effort since Iran would be able to export its oil without interference. Increased oil export will inevitably mean increased revenues which will in turn lead to improvement of the Iranian war machine and its capabilities.

Meanwhile, the Americans do not show the kind of resolve that would deter Iran from pursuing its war aims for fear of driving Iran into the Soviet Orbit. We really can no longer afford this kind of instant reactive diplomacy of doing things first and finding the explanation for it afterward. We must have a well-thought out, coherent and comprehensive policy which addresses itself to the problems of the region rather than deal with their symptoms all the time.

It is imperative that there should be no complacency and delay in the implementation of U.N. Resolution 598. We should not allow ourselves to be so mesmerised by the consensus achieved either at Amman or the U.N. Security Council that this unanimity becomes an end in itself. It provides the means for effective action not only relating to the Gulf, but also on other important and explosive disputes. There is a serious risk in the widely expressed view that all other disputes in the region have been overshadowed by the Gulf war, which must now await the outcome of superpower cooperation to resolve it before other outstanding problems are addressed.

It is hoped that the Secretary General of the U.N. would increase his effort and capitalise on the current collaboration to impress upon the Security Council that other conflicts are not left in abeyance and should be tackled simultaneously. Allowed to drift these disputes become more complex and intractable to the detriment of all concerned.

Increased effort and resolve become even more necessary when differences in perception whether in the Arab World or between the two superpowers on the nature and the extent of the U.N. resolution and its provisions, coupled with the determination of the Iranian leadership at the top to prosecute the war to its bitter end against Iraq, are taken into consideration. They must not be allowed to paralyse the peace machinery of the U.N. Failure in this regard would mean that the region is condemned to continuous war and destruction. Such an outcome would inflict untold damage on the peacemaking machinery of the world and put into sharper focus the credibility of Arab leadership and the role of the superpowers. More directly it would put an end to the useful work and progress which the Arabs have made toward the promotion of peace and good neighbourliness in this troubled region. [passage omitted]

The Amman summit devoted some time to the question of Egypt's readmission to the political councils of the Arab World. It is incomprehensible that when Arab leaders are looking into the problem of Arab national security, Egypt, the most popular and potentially the most powerful Arab state, should be kept out. The rush to establish diplomatic relations between Egypt and several other Arab states in the wake of the Amman summit is an indication of the importance the Arab states attach to Egypt. Joint Arab strategy and defence is likely to be as effective without Egypt as the Western alliance is without the United States or the Warsaw Pact without the USSR. Moreover, whether in the fold of outside it, Egypt has not shirked its pan-Arab responsibilities. She has remained a staunch champion of the Arab cause, whether in Palestine, in Lebanon or the Gulf. In peace and in war, Egypt can be relied on for support and assistance in the Arab World.

The peace achieved between Egypt and Israel provides the universally accepted precedent for the implementation of the cardinal equation embodied in U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 of exchanging peace for territory. Egypt has evolved its commitment to the proposal for an international peace conference to be held under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all the parties concerned in the Arab-Israeli dispute and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council.

As we seek a middle path in the face of cynical extremes, Europe and many other parts of the world have become our partners in this endeavour. It is the only proposal that keeps the peace process in the Middle East alive and viable. Egypt's role and interest provide an important element in that process. It will heighten the desire for peace, improve the capability for development and reconstruction, and act as a stabilizing force in this highly volatile region. [passage omitted]

Al-Rifa'i, EC's Cheysson Discuss Cooperation

*JN301349 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Claude Cheysson, EC commissioner general. They reviewed Mideast developments and the Iraq-Iran war. They also examined economic cooperation between Jordan and the EC and how to promote it.

Energy Minister Receives Iraqi Oil Minister

*JN010930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2019 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Amman, 30 Nov (INA)—Jordanian Energy Minister Hisham al-Khatib met here today with Iraqi Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim, who is currently visiting Jordan. 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim told the INA correspondent in Amman that the meeting focused on relations of cooperation between both fraternal countries and ways to promote and enhance them in the field of oil industries. The meeting also dealt with the exchange of expertise in oil prospecting in addition to the [words indistinct] agreement recently signed between the Iraqi Oil Ministry and the Jordanian Energy Ministry.

They also discussed Jordan's contribution to the fourth Arab energy conference scheduled to be held in Baghdad on 4 March 1988.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim arrived here earlier today to participate in a seminar on oil and the future of development in the Arab homeland which will begin here tomorrow, Tuesday.

Message Sent to Five Leaders on Summit

*JN291407 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 29 Nov 87*

[Text] Jordan is making efforts under His Majesty King Husayn's wise leadership to acquaint the kings and presidents of fraternal and friendly countries with the resolutions and positive results of the summit of reconciliation and accord which was held in Amman recently. Within the framework of these efforts, acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin received in his office this morning Indonesian Ambassador (Zail Yasin), Turkish Ambassador Semih Baran, and Indian Ambassador Gurcharan Singh. Dudin conveyed to them messages from His Majesty King Husayn to their heads of state on the positive results of the extraordinary Arab summit conference—the summit of reconciliation and accord.

The minister assigned Wa'il al-Masri, the Jordanian ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, to convey a message from His Majesty King Husayn to His Excellency Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. He also assigned Nayif Mawla, the Jordanian ambassador to Indonesia, to convey a message from His Majesty King Husayn to his majesty the king of Malaysia on the results of the extraordinary Arab summit conference.

Foreign Minister al-Masri Visits PRC

For Chinese reportage on Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri's visit to the PRC, including his talks with President Li Xiannian and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, see the Near East & South Asia section of the 1 December China Daily Report and subsequent issues.

German Hostage Cordes To Be Released 'Soon'
NC011759 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1723 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The *Al-Mashriq News Agency* has cited informed security sources as saying that the remaining foreign hostages in Lebanon are being held in Beirut's southern suburb. These sources base their assertion on precise information emerging from the investigations that take place after every hostage release. Information on these releases is usually handled by the security authorities in Lebanon, France, and the United States, through the Interpol network. The sources declined to divulge further details on the whereabouts of the foreign hostages or to say whether the Lebanese security authorities know exactly where they are being held.

Meanwhile, the news agency has cited informed sources as saying that arrangements are almost complete for the release of German hostage Rudolf Cordes. The sources said that he will be released soon.

Resistance Confronts Israeli Advance in South
NC011659 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes flew over the city of Sidon at medium altitude this afternoon, drawing anti-aircraft fire. In another development, the towns of 'Arab Salim and Jarju' came under artillery shelling from Tallat al-Suwayda' at 1130 today. Meanwhile, it has been reported that an attempt has been made by the Israeli occupation forces to advance in the direction of 'Arab Salim. Resistance fighters confronted them and fierce fighting ensued. No more details of this incident are yet available.

PSP Political Bureau Praises Fedayeen Operation
NC302137 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The PSP Political Bureau convened under Walid Junblatt at the People's Palace in Bayt al-Din today. The Bureau reviewed the development of the general political situation and issued the following statement at the conclusion of the meeting.

1. The PSP Political Bureau greets the Palestinian resistance heroes who carried out the remarkable fedayeen operation in Al-Khalisah [Qiryat Shemona] in the occupied land of Palestine. The Political Bureau notes that the increasing fedayeen operations and the Palestinian people's struggle inside the occupied territories represent clear-cut evidence that the Palestinian people's issue is alive despite all attempts to wipe it out.

The fedayeen operation confirms the capability of the Palestinian people to strengthen and to increase the effectiveness of their struggle. If the Palestinian people were to organize their struggle more efficiently, they would be able to surmount all armor and security belts

set up by Israel. If Israel is preparing a new act of aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples on the pretext of this operation or without a pretext, as has been the case in the past, the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist forces, in cooperation with Syria, must prepare themselves to confront all contingencies and must direct all guns toward the common Israeli threat.

The PSP Political Bureau went on to say that resolving the camps war, which is destroying national and pan-Arab efforts, is a task that should top all other efforts. It also is imperative to strengthen the unity of the national steadfastness trio represented in the Lebanese nationalist forces, the Palestinian resistance, and Syria. PSP leader Comrade Walid Junblatt's visit to Brother Mustafa Sa'd in Sidon today falls within this context. The PSP leader stressed the need to ensure that national security guarantees are drawn up that are assiduously observed and adequate to bring about a Palestinian withdrawal from east of Sidon so that this abnormal situation in the national arena can be ended in order to effect a unity among all nationalist guns.

2. The PSP Political Bureau expresses its deep regret for the victims that fell at the Internal Security Forces Institute in Al-Warwar. This incident is the result of the security tension generated by the factional army and Phalangist Party as well as the consequence of the shelling of national villages. This shelling claims victims and causes property losses and also cripples social life on an almost daily basis. The construction of fortifications and embankments reflects clear-cut aggressive intentions. It should be recalled that the factional army is building strategic positions in order to carry out attacks on our areas neighboring the Internal Security Forces Institute. Amin al-Jumayyil's inspection visit of the centers of this factional army is new proof that he continues to support this army's role in carrying out acts of aggression against our areas in cooperation with the Phalangist forces.

3. The PSP Political Bureau reviewed the party's affairs and the activities which will be carried out on the occasion of the birth of martyr teacher Kamal Junblatt which falls on 6 December. The Bureau has decided to issue a political statement on that occasion.

Al-Huss Urges Presidential Action on Crisis
NC291041 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has stated that the situation would be extremely critical should another minister resign from the government, following Minister Skaf's resignation. Indicating that the situation is basically irregular due to the resigned and collapsed government, Dr al-Huss said that the situation calls for an initiative by the president which would enable a new government to emerge after the elimination of any obstacles. Until the president undertakes such an

initiative, Al-Huss added, he will be held responsible for the continuing state of disintegration and irregularity of the government and the resulting negative consequences.

Birri Wants Reconciliation Prior to Elections

NC272038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] In response to a statement by Dany Sham'un, leader of the National Liberal Party, Minister Nabih Birri stated: I have called for reconciliation prior to the presidential elections because we want to know under which system a new president will be elected. If the election is to take place under the present sectarian system, the current president will be the last president of Lebanon.

Al-Rasi on Presidential Elections, Candidate

NC010605 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] In an interview with the Saudi paper *Al-Bilad*, Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi has warned against the attempts being made to obstruct the presidential elections in order to achieve Israel's partitionist goals. Minister al-Rasi stressed the need for a presidential candidate to be patriotic, fair, and strong. Such a candidate should also be able to inspire confidence in all the Lebanese and have the will to (?confront) the various militia groups existing in Lebanon.

Al-Rasi, PSP, Amal on Al-Warwar Incident

NC301726 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1510 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The tragedy over the weekend at the Internal Security Forces Institute in Al-Warwar today continued to occupy the authorities. At least 9 police cadets were killed and over 30 others were wounded when a shell landed on the institute's grounds during an artillery duel on the Kafr Shima-Al-Shuwayfat front.

Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi met today with members of the Security Committee to discuss ways of neutralizing the Al-Warwar area. He later announced that the fatal shell was fired from Al-Shuwayfat and stressed that it was not permissible that such mistakes should occur regardless of the background.

Socialist Party member Akram Shuhayyib called for a political reading of the incident regardless of the source of the shell. He expressed the profound regret of the Socialist Party and called for the neutralizing of villages in the Al-Warwar area vicinity.

Minister al-Rasi devoted much of his attention during the day to follow up the tragic incident and met with senior officials of both the Socialist Party and the Amal Movement and the Security Committee representatives. In a statement later, Minister al-Rasi said that he had convened the meeting with the committee chairman,

Brigadier Jean Nasif, and key members to discuss the incident. He noted that no party intentionally shelled the security forces institute, but noted that the mistake had claimed a number of lives and had claimed as well many others.

The interior minister told reporters that he was working hard to prevent any repetition of such an incident and declared that the institute should only open again after guarantees were secured. He said that the security forces had maintained their unity and had not suffered from internal strife as was the case in many other government departments.

Socialist Party figure Akram Shuhayyib said that the incident was a real tragedy which was certainly not intended by anyone. He noted that the general area is also regularly shelled by units of the Lebanese Army and Lebanese Forces militia, and pointed out that militiamen have been fortifying their positions in recent weeks. He described the visit of President al-Jumayyil to the lines of confrontation on the eve of independence day as a further provocation. Shuhayyib called for an assessment of the incident and questioned the right of anyone to shell unarmed civilians anywhere.

Amal Movement official Mr Haytham Jum'ah called on all parties to end the random shelling of civilian areas and declared that there was no justification for artillery duels and random shelling.

The military prosecutor's office has issued an open warrant for the arrest of those responsible for the massacre. A full investigation has been ordered by the military magistrate and senior investigators and magistrates visited the scene of the incident this morning.

Al-Jumayyil Returns From FRG Visit 29 Nov

NC291525 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut from Paris today at the conclusion of an official visit to the FRG. During his visit, the president had talks with ranking German officials dealing with the economic and political situation in Lebanon.

Junblatt Meets Nasirite Leader, Makes Statement

NC301415 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Public Works and Tourism Minister Walid Junblatt visited Sidon today and met with Eng Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Nasirite Popular Organization. After the meeting, Junblatt said that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the general situation in Lebanon, how to confront all the Israeli-isolationist dangers in Lebanon, and the unification of the Palestinian and Lebanese ranks to confront any possible Israeli action in the wake of the daring Palestinian operation against the Israeli camp in Qiryat Shemona.

Minister Junblatt expressed an understanding of the position of the Palestinians regarding their withdrawal east of Sidon. He said that the Palestinians want only the minimum guarantees. He indicated that he will convey this position and guarantees to the Unification and Liberation Front to discuss them.

For his part, Eng Sa'd emphasized that everybody wants political and security guarantees, and regard the political guarantees as the more important.

Lebanese Forces Leader on Solidarity Movement
PM271447 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
27 Nov 87 p 17

[Unattributed interview with Emile Rahmah, member of Lebanese Forces Command Council and Christian Solidarity Movement leader, in Washington; date not given]

[Excerpts] Lawyer Emile Rahmah, member of the Lebanese Forces Command Council and Christian Solidarity Movement leader, visited the U.S. capital recently within the framework of a visit that included U.S. and Canadian cities. *Al-Hawadith* interviewed him in Washington:

Al-Hawadith: What are the most notable political proposals the Solidarity Movement believes in that are currently being discussed?

Rahmah: The Solidarity Movement chiefly concentrates on the unity of the Christian ranks. It considers that Lebanon will not return to its former condition unless there is a unified Christian stand. This is a necessary precondition for securing Lebanese understanding. There can be no unified Lebanese stand without a unified Christian stand. We understand that unity of the Christian ranks cannot be achieved through tribal reconciliations among Christian leaders. Our opinion is summed up in the fact that there is a need for unity among Christian ranks on the basis of a unified Christian plan as well as a unified Christian decision. In order to achieve this, we need to take the opinion of all influential people and those who genuinely represent Christians. To some extent this is happening now within the Lebanese Front, but some influential parties are still outside it.

When we reach a unified Christian plan, an understanding with Muslims in Lebanon will become possible. Whereas the existence of two Christian plans would mean that one of them will negotiate with a Muslim party while the other might negotiate or conflict with the other Muslim party, thus dividing both Christians and Muslims.

Al-Hawadith: Does the Solidarity Movement you are leading adopt the Lebanese Forces' decisions completely?

Rahmah: Not at all. I was first to criticize the statement tactically issued by the forces' new leadership under Dr Samir Ja'ja' after the 15 January 1985 incidents. The statement was mildly worded because there was information about a possible Syrian strike against the eastern area [of Beirut]. At that time I did not agree to such tactics. Therefore the Solidarity Movement issued a statement criticizing the forces' statement. Although the forces are responsible for issues of war and fighting, the Solidarity Movement, as a university graduates' movement, decided to make a comment and record its stand in the annals of history. This took place despite the fact that the Solidarity Movement is accused of totally belonging to Samir Ja'ja' because I am its leader and one of those closest to him. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Will there be a presidential candidate from the forces?

Rahmah: I will tell you what [Lebanese Forces Deputy Commander in Chief] Karim Paqradi said a few days ago, namely that the position regarding the presidential candidate will be announced on 20 May next. It seems that the Lebanese Front and the president of the Republic will agree on one candidate for president. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: Were this and other issues concerning Lebanon's future discussed with the U.S. officials you met with?

Rahmah: Political talks are not all for publication. However, the talks were generally held within the framework of assurances about Lebanon's future. They also dealt with the exchange of viewpoints. I personally was eager not to go into details in view of my conviction that there are those who are more influential. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: During your meetings with the Americans did you sense any optimism or pessimism about Lebanon's destiny? Rahmah: What I have actually sensed, especially during the meeting with Ghlasbi [name as published], is that the new rapprochement between the United States and Syria will not be at the expense of the Lebanese and that the U.S. opening up to Syria will not be against Lebanon.

Al-Hawadith: Syrian sources said that dialogue with the United States regarding Lebanon revolves around two points: pressure on the forces in order to facilitate an internal solution, and pressure on Israel to make it withdraw from the border. What is your opinion?

Rahmah: I am doubtful about the truth of this information, especially if it refers to the Lebanese Forces, because my information is that the Americans support the application of legitimate authority over the entire Lebanese territory, that is, including all the militias as well as unofficial and non-Lebanese military forces, including Syrian forces.

What the United States can also do is to include the military aspect. There will be no U.S. military return to Lebanon. But the United States will help the Lebanese Army. The Army under its current command would not accept one contact line with the Syrian Army or jointly arrange something, since after the collapse of the tripartite agreement and the return of the Syrian Army to Beirut without consulting the president of the Republic, indeed against his will, the Lebanese Army is no longer able to form a joint deterrent force with the Syrians. The Americans are quite well aware that a party to the problem cannot act as arbitrator. If the present U.S. proposals include Syrian military participation to achieve a solution, then this will mean failure once again for the Americans in the peace process in Lebanon after their failure in 1983.

Al-Hawadith: What about the Israeli side in the Lebanese problem? You have not referred to it at all.

Rahmah: The Israelis must withdraw from every inch of southern territory because it is Lebanese. We want it and we will not forfeit it. The Israeli Army says that its concern is the security of its northern borders, whereas other parties say that they want to hit Israel in the south.

Al-Hawadith: Of course, as long as Israeli occupation is in the south the Lebanese have the right, indeed the duty, to resist Israeli occupation and liberate their territories, just as the forces talk of their right to resistance in order to liberate Lebanon.

Rahmah: I am not against the right of the southerners or their commitment to do anything they decide, just as I am convinced that I have the right to resist the Syrian occupation. I believe the main reason for Israel's presence is the Syrian expansion in Lebanon militarily, politically, economically, and socially.

Al-Hawadith: Why is your concept of the Lebanese resistance not based on the rejection of any foreign military presence, including Israeli occupation?

Rahmah: We are with the Lebanese resistance and not with the popular resistance in its present form, since it claims to be against the Republic's forces. This means that if a Lebanese group were launched under the name "Lebanese Shi'ite Group" and wanted to resist the Israelis under a Lebanese commitment, we would support it. But if it is formed to satisfy others and implement foreign plans against Lebanese interests, we would say it is unfair for all these young people to die for personal purposes or for the establishment of new homelands and republics in Lebanon.

Al-Hawadith: What is your opinion of the accusation directed at the forces that they are responsible for the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami?

Rahmah: Let me tell you something important: It is essential to know how Prime Minister Karami was assassinated, because what happened proves that behind it there must have been a state possessing strong services involved in assassination operations. Any party that does not possess the intelligence capability of a state cannot succeed in this regard.

Syrian Arrests of Pro-Iranians Assessed
NC301051 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0945 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The French magazine *L'Express* has revealed that Syrian forces in West Beirut and the Al-Biq'a Valley have arrested a great number of pro-Iranian militiamen. This Syrian blow to Iran, the magazine adds, began before the Amman summit and continued until after the West Beirut explosions. The explosions were an answer or a warning to Syria by Iran regarding Syria's stand on the Gulf question during the summit conference.

AL-SHIRA' Reveals Gulf Assistance to Syria
NC271850 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1645 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] The *Al-Shira'* magazine has revealed that Syria has received \$1.5 billion in financial assistance from the Arab Gulf countries. The magazine noted that Syria had originally requested a sum of \$4 billion to help overcome the economic crisis it faces. The Gulf countries however reduced the amount to less than \$2 billion.

SSNP Official Meets Birri; Discusses Camps War
NC301433 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has received a delegation representing the Syrian Social Nationalist Party's [SSNP] Higher Council. Party deputy leader Dr Marwan Faris said after the meeting that Minister Birri briefed the delegation on the situation in the wake of the Amman summit conference and the recent fedayeen operation [in northern Galilee] and on Minister Birri's meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus. He said that the discussions dealt with efforts made to totally end the camps war.

Dr Faris affirmed that Minister Birri's initiative is being implemented daily, and that the camps war is proceeding toward its end in order to give a strong impetus to (?ending) the conflict on the national and pan-Arab arenas.

Amal Denies Military Official's Removal
NC291737 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] We have received the following from an Amal Movement official:

A newspaper has published a report that the Amal Movement's Organizational Bureau has relieved the Movement's military official of his post. The bureau has not carried out such an action and the report is inaccurate.

Amal Notified of Palestinian Withdrawal Plan
NC301803 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Based on information that has been received from Algerian and Syrian officials, Minister Nabih Birri said that the Palestinian leadership has decided to withdraw Palestinian gunmen from areas east of Sidon within the next few days. Minister Birri pointed out that Amal Movement official Haytham Jum'ah has been notified of the decision.

Birri went on to say that the Amal Movement welcomes this new development. He said that the movement hopes that the intention to withdraw will be translated into an actual withdrawal soon in order to turn this painful page. Birri added that the Unification and Liberation Front has assigned a committee with the task of consolidating the national areas. He noted that this formula has been completed and conveyed to the front's members.

Syrian Forces Stop Inter-Amal Fighting
NC301559 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Clashes broke out between Amal gunmen and others belonging to 'Aql Hamiyah [Amal Movement military official] in the Al-Janah area this afternoon. A

Syrian force had to intervene to stop the fighting, in which rockets were used. Meanwhile, the sniper fire that was directed at the Shatila camp today left Dalal Radi dead.

Lahd Militia, Liberation Army Clash in South
NC271425 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Violent clashes, involving the use of artillery, rocket, and machinegun fire, took place between Lahd militiamen and Popular Liberation Army fighters along the Kafr Falus-Lib'n-Ayn Al-Mir combat lines from 1100 to 1530 today.

A responsible military source in the Nasirite Popular Organization has stated that the Zionist enemy's agents caused the situation along the Kafr Falus front to flare up, shelling the Liberation Army's positions and nearby densely populated areas with heavy-caliber artillery. Our artillery engaged the agents' artillery in order to silence them.

Group Claims Attack on Beirut Kurdish Office
NC301829 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The organization of Samir al-Kurdi's friends has claimed responsibility for blowing up the headquarters of the Kurdish workers' party, PKK, in Verdun [in West Beirut] at noon today. The organization issued a statement in which it vowed to bring PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan to account for his crimes against the Kurdish cause. It should be recalled that the organization is a splinter group of the Syrian-backed PKK. Today's operation comes in response to the PKK's mounting activities that recently culminated in attacks on the Syrian-Turkish borders and on civilian villages in Turkey.

Al-Ahmar Leaves for PDRY Celebrations
JN281318 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning left for Aden. He is heading a party and government delegation representing the Syrian Arab Republic to attend the 20th anniversary of PDRY independence. During their stay in Aden, the delegation will hold contacts and meetings with the YSP leadership and with other delegations attending the celebrations.

Haykal Remarks on Iran, Israel Reported
JN302040 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo—Egyptian journalist Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, former editor in chief of the Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahram*, has asserted that it is the Zionist entity, and not Iran, which poses the main threat to Arab national security.

In an interview with the Egyptian magazine *Al-Musawwar*, Haykal says Israel has nuclear weapons, occupies Arab territory, cuts off the continuation of Arab territory, and is connected with a foreign power which seeks to dominate the region. He notes there are no major contradictions between the Arabs and Iran. Haykal emphasizes that the conflict in the region is a conflict with Israel. He says it is dangerous and wrong for the Arab nation to think it is in a continuous battle with Iran, as Iran is an indivisible part of the Middle East on geographic, historic, humanitarian, and cultural levels.

As for Israel, it cannot constitute a part of the region's human and historic content; to ensure its survival it always has to resort to its military force of aggression, Haykal asserts.

President Hafiz al-Asad Visits Romania

For reportage on the visit to Romania by President Hafiz al-Asad, including his arrival, his welcome by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, and his talks with Ceausescu, see the Romania section of the 1 December East Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Afghanistan

Further Reports on Grand Assembly Session

Keshtmand Attends Ceremony

LD290740 Kabul BAKHTAR in
English 0512 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 28, *Bakhtar*—At the threshold of Loya Jirgah, Grand Assembly, Kabul City, the cradle of the national democratic April Revolution, is decorated with national and state banners, patriotic slogans and portraits of the Afghan national leaders and is illuminated with the colored bulbs.

Apart from the representatives of the Afghan people to the Loya Jirgah, groups of journalists from several countries of the world have arrived in Kabul to cover the proceedings of the Jirgah. Kabul residents watch in each nook and corners of the city the large portraits of the Afghan national leaders who played a significant role in safeguarding the politic (?independence) and national sovereignty of Afghanistan and through their heroic struggles saved the country from the British colonialist yoke.

A commemorative monument was opened here today in honour of a Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) which was convened in Qandahar city in 1747.

The commemorative ceremony was attended by Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, members of the Political Bureau and secretariat of the PDPA CC and other party and state officials.

Draft Constitution Approved

LD301653 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpt] The Republic of Afghanistan's new draft constitution, the nation's fundamental text which contains the legal, political, economic, social, and cultural foundation of Afghanistan's society and endorses the importance of national reconciliation, has been registered. It was approved and endorsed today in 13 chapters and 149 articles, after having been studied, assessed, and discussed comprehensively by the members of the Grand Assembly in a climate of unity and cohesion on the part of the people's representatives. [passage omitted]

Najibullah Elected President

LD010924 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0515 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Kabul, November 30, *Bakhtar*—The people's deputies at Loya Jirgah, Grand Assembly, the work of which is still continuing, unanimously elected Dr. Najibullah as president of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Dr. Najibullah after being elected as president of the Republic [was] sworn in the afternoon session today.

The president of the Republic delivered a speech thanking the people of Afghanistan for the great confidence put in him.

GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

Meets Zarif on Arrival

LD262134 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR deputy foreign minister arrived in Kabul at 1500 today. Farid Zarif, deputy foreign affairs minister; the deputy head of protocol for the foreign affairs minister; and the ambassador and staff of the GDR Embassy in Kabul welcomed the guest at Kabul International Airport.

According to another report, Farid Zarif, deputy foreign affairs minister of the DRA, held a courtesy meeting this afternoon in his office with Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR deputy foreign minister, who has come to Kabul on a friendly official visit in the framework of cooperation between both countries' foreign ministries.

According to another report, the GDR deputy foreign affairs minister laid a wreath this afternoon at the memorial to the martyrs of the April Revolution.

Holds Talks With Wakil

LD272239 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Comrade 'Abdul Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA minister of foreign affairs, received in his office this morning Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, deputy foreign minister of the GDR, who is on an official and friendly visit to the DRA. The two sides discussed mutual topics of interest and bilateral relations.

According to another report, official talks began between Farid Zarif, deputy foreign minister of the DRA, and Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, deputy foreign minister of the GDR. The delegations of both sides were present. During the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere marked by mutual understanding, both sides discussed common and regional affairs and further cooperation between the foreign ministries of the two countries.

This afternoon, 'Abdul Samad Qayyumi, minister of education and training, and 'Abdul Wahid Sorabi, minister of higher and vocational education, also met with Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter at their offices. During these meetings, they spoke about the expansion of mutual cooperation in education and training and higher education.

Meets With 'Amanuddin Amin

LD282238 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Mir 'Amanuddin Amin, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers and president of the DRA-GDR Friendship Society, met today in his office with Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR deputy minister of foreign affairs, who is in Kabul on an official and friendly visit.

They talked about bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

PDPA Publication Accord Signed With CSSR

LD300248 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0448 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 28, *Bakhtar*—The protocol of cooperation between the *Party Life*, the magazine of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA CC) and the *Party Life [Zivot Strany]* magazine of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia was concluded in Prague recently. The protocol was signed on behalf of the PDPA by Abdul Rahim, the editor of the PDPA CC *Party Life* magazine and deputy of PDPA CC Department of Publicity and Culture, and on behalf of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPCZ) by Josef Valenta, the editor of the *Party Life* magazine of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. Likewise, talks on cooperation between the PDPA CC *Party Life* magazine and the *Party Life* magazine of the Communist Party of Soviet Union (CPSU) was held in Moscow.

Kawiani Questioned on Reconciliation Policy

AU240902 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
20 Nov 87 pp 1,7

[Interview with Najimuddin Kawiani, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee of the DRA, by *Rude Pravo* staff journalist Miroslav Fladr in Prague: "National Reconciliation Leads to Peace," date not given]

[Text] [Fladr] At what stage is the realization of the policy of national reconciliation now?

[Kawiani] The Afghan revolution is essentially a national democratic revolution. Our country is located in a strategically important region in Asia. What I want to stress is that for various reasons the revolution is facing difficulties. On the one hand, the PDPA is a young party. On the other hand, we are living in fairly difficult conditions. Add to this the imperialist pressures and the hostility toward our country. All this has brought about the current situation. The PDPA proclaimed the process of national reconciliation in January 1986. Its purpose is, above all, to ensure peace. We proclaimed this line by

the unilateral cease-fire. Political prisoners were released. We appealed for the formation of a coalition government. Further political parties were legalized and so forth.

Considerable successes were achieved in the past 10 months. More than 100,000 refugees returned from Pakistan and Iran, despite all the obstacles those countries laid in the way of their return home. More than 30,000 former members of the opposition laid down their weapons and are serving in the ranks of militia units today. During this period, more than 6,000 members of the opposition forces joined the national reconciliation commissions. More than 1,200 opposition officials were elected to the bodies of people's power.

Hazarajat, Afghanistan's central region, has been proclaimed a region of peace. The Farah and Nimroz areas—the first one borders Iran; the second borders Pakistan—have been proclaimed regions of peace. More than 2,000 villages under the government of people's power live in peaceful conditions. These data show that the chosen line is correct and successful. However, figures alone cannot express the successes achieved in the process of national reconciliation.

Our people are thirsting for peace, but the undeclared war against our country has acquired a broad scale. Last year alone, the military aid extended to our enemies by the U.S. Congress amounted to \$630 million. U.S. aid to the enemies of the revolution amounted to \$1 billion last year. In addition to that, further capitalist states, reactionary Arab regimes, and reactionary governments in the region are helping the opposition forces with \$2 billion annually.

[Fladr] What role did the recent nationwide PDPA conference play in the course being followed?

[Kawiani] The conference has helped to strengthen the line of national reconciliation. We assessed the acquired experience and, on that basis, determined the further course of this process. What do we want to pay particular attention to in the second stage of national reconciliation? To the final unification of the leftist bloc or the leftist coalition, to the approval of a new constitution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and to the election of the president of the Republic. We have agreed that the traditional Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) will convene on 29 November to approve the new constitution. The constitution was presented to the people for assessment 6 months in advance. It was discussed by some 2 million inhabitants and we received roughly 15,000 recommendations, critical suggestions, and proposals. The Loya Jirgah will also elect the president of Afghanistan. The draft constitution and the discussion which was held envisage the establishment of a National Assembly of Afghanistan, which will then elect a new Afghan Government.

Another issue on which we agreed is the extension of the unilateral cease-fire until 15 January 1988.

[Fladr] What does the DRA want to achieve in the direct talks with Pakistan, conducted under the aegis of the UN deputy secretary general in Geneva?

[Kawiani] In the course of the past 6 years we have been constantly declaring that it is necessary to end the interference from abroad, receive international guarantees so that this interference will not be repeated, enable the return of refugees and, at the same time, work out the timetable for the limited contingent of Soviet troops to return to their peace-loving fatherland. We again declare that the presence of the Soviet troops on Afghan territory is in accord with Article 51 of the UN Charter and the agreement concluded between the two states. The reason for their presence is the interference from abroad. They will return home the moment this interference ends. In the indirect Afghan-Pakistani talks, the two sides' differences regarding the deadline for their return has narrowed to 8 months.

[Fladr] Not only Pakistan, but also the stance of Iran are factors that complicate matters.

[Kawiani] We have a long border with Iran. We also have a common history, language, and religion. Unfortunately, the Iranian policy toward our revolution and the national reconciliation policy is hostile. The Afghan side is incessantly striving to resume friendly relations with that country.

[Fladr] In the Western press, speculations frequently crop up about the role of the former king of Afghanistan in the process of national reconciliation.

[Kawiani] We have no contacts with the former king. Some of the hostile groups from the ranks of the counterrevolutionaries, particularly the so-called united triangle, are trying to recognize him as the leader by using the information media and propaganda. We declare that we support any Afghan who can do something positive to end the war and establish peace in Afghanistan. At the same time, it is a fact that the opposition forces have differing views with regard to the ex-king and are divided into two blocs. This struggle of theirs is escalating. Some of them are for the former king, and some are against him.

[Fladr] Not so long ago, it was noted that 50 years had elapsed since the signing of the first Afghan-Czechoslovak Friendship Treaty. How do you assess relations between our countries and parties?

[Kawiani] Relations between the two parties are developing beneficially for both our nations. The CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] and the PDPA signed a protocol and the contents of the protocol have been bilaterally implemented. We have decided to sign a new protocol. I would like to stress that the CPCZ is helping

our country and our party to train cadres. To this day, 75 PDPA members have attended courses at the Political Academy of the CPCZ Central Committee. We have agreed that in the course of the next 5 years a further 75 PDPA members will attend these courses. We are exchanging delegations on occasions of important political events, and our delegations also meet at the international forum. After the Soviet Union, the DRA has the most extensive trade relations with Czechoslovakia. We are fully satisfied with the level of our mutual relations and we are glad that they are constantly developing.

[Fladr] I thank you for the interview.

Keshtmand Visits Soviet Border Town 26 Nov
LD290729 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0430 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 27, *Bakhtar*—Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of Council of Ministers of the DRA visited the border town of Hairatan on Thursday.

The chairman of Council of Ministers participated at the meeting of working people of Hairatan city held on the occasion of the inauguration of third phase of the new border establishments of Stras company.

The construction work of the establishments [was] completed by the construction unit number one of the Soviet Union.

Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand also participated at a meeting held there for better organization of the transportation of the Soviet gratis aid goods arrive at the port for free distribution to the people. S.A. Keshtmand gave special instructions to the concerned officials in this regard.

S.A. Keshtmand and his companions returned back to Kabul on the same day.

Resistance Groups Join Reconciliation Process

Herat Fighters Surrender
LD260906 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0421 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 25, *Bakhtar*—An armed group consisting of 300 persons headed by Sher Ahmad Abasquli laid down its arms in Koshk-e Kohneh sub-district of Herat Province on Monday and joined the process of national reconciliation, reports a *Bakhtar* correspondent from Herat.

Apart from submitting a large amount of weapons and ammunition to the security forces, the group established a tribal detachment in Sabzaki Village as well. The ring-leader and members of the said group promised to take active part in securing peace in the mentioned sub-district.

Two hundred families consisting of 1,000 persons who had been wandering for some time in the mountains have also returned to their villages and resumed their peaceful life.

100 Hezb-e Islami Surrender
LD290818 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0439 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Kabul, November 28, *Bakhtar*—"Hearing the voice of peace and national reconciliation, I thought of whose side I was on. Why had I killed hundreds of my innocent compatriots? Why had I destroyed schools and mosques at the behest of the enemies of the people? And why was I still on the enemy's side? My conscience troubled me.

"Finally I understood that we were destroying our own country at the behest of the enemy". Said Maiwajan the commander of a 100-man armed group, belonging to the Hezb-e Islami (Islami Party), recently joined national reconciliation in Dinar Kheyl village of Qarah Bagh District, Kabul Province, speaking to a reporter of *Kabul New Times*, he and his men denounced atrocities they have committed while being in the hands.

"Repenting of my past deeds, I asked for forgiveness and surrendered to the security forces. We laid down our heavy machineguns, recoilless canons, rocket launchers and other weapons and ammunition, which had been given to us by the enemies of people for carrying out of subversive activities," Maiwajan said. [passage omitted]

650 Jowzjan Rebels Join
LD290816 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0437 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 28, *Bakhtar*—An opposition group consisting of 650 armed and unarmed men headed by Samruddin has laid down its arms and joined the process of national reconciliation in Sar-e Pol district of Jowzjan Province, north of the country.

In a meeting held on the occasion, the head of the group on behalf of the others promised to do his best for the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation and securing peace in their areas.

Armed Forces Crush Rebels in Paktia Province
LD282246 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1530 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] A *Bakhtar* military reporter in Paktia reports that a group of extremists, who established themselves in the Sataw Kandaw of Paktia Province, where they disrupted the peaceful life of the people, was crushed recently by the vigilant Armed Forces of the DRA.

The report says that the people of Paktia Province recently appealed to the province's National Reconciliation Commission to allow the Armed Forces to destroy the base of these criminals, who were attempting to disrupt the peaceful life of the people, and to eliminate the extremist group.

The report adds that the Armed Forces surrounded the base and asked the extremists to lay down their arms and surrender. The *Bakhtar* military correspondent says that the extremist group refused to surrender and fired on the Armed Forces. After receiving repeated appeals from the people and the National Reconciliation Commission, the Armed Forces stepped up their operation in order to ensure peace in the region and to stop any recurrence of their criminal acts. Crushing blows were inflicted on the extremist group. They were killed and their fortifications were destroyed. The Armed Forces captured a large amount of light and heavy arms from the base.

Bakhtar adds that the tribes of Paktia, including Jadran, cooperated in crushing the extremists.

BAKHTAR Report
LD301025 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0445 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 29, *Bakhtar*—At the request of the Commission for National Reconciliation of Paktia Province, a group of extremists who were disturbing the peaceful life of the residents of Sataw Kandaw area in Paktia Province, bordering Pakistan were crushed by the Armed Force of the DRA.

As a result of the operation a number of the extremists arms and ammunition depots were destroyed.

Different ethnic and tribal people of Paktia including residents of Zadian took part in the suppression of the extremist group.

Mujahidin Capture Northern Garrison Town
BK281759 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured the Shamshak garrison town in the north of the country. The township, which is situated about 125 km from the Soviet border, has been captured by the mujahidin after a week of fighting during which some 200 Kabul soldiers were killed. The mujahidin also captured 21 Kabul soldiers and officers, in addition to destroying 7 tanks and armored vehicles. All the areas around the town are also under the control of the mujahidin.

The capture of the Shamshak garrison by the mujahidin marks their fifth strategically important success in northern Afghanistan this year. Of the four other garrisons under the mujahidin's control, two are located in Takhar Province and one each in Baghran and Badshan.

Bangladesh

Home Ministry on Opposition Leaders' Release

BK301544 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali
1430 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] The deputy prime minister and minister in charge of the Home Ministry said normalcy is returning to the country following the imposition of the state of emergency 3 days ago. He was speaking at a crowded news conference this evening in Dhaka.

Professor Abdul Matin said that there was vehicular traffic yesterday in Dhaka and that many shops and markets were open today. Traffic was also normal in all district cities. He emphatically stated that it is not true that the strike was successful yesterday. Normal work continued in all government, semi-government, and autonomous bodies. However, this was not the case with regard to the courts. All mills, besides [words indistinct] paper mills, operated normally; with the exception of 5 textile mills, all 34 mills worked normally.

The Home Ministry official said that in order to solve the political problems, the government is trying to create a favorable climate for holding a dialogue on the basis of the president's four-point program and that the detained leaders are being released in phases. Three leaders were released today: Mirza Golam Hafiz and Saidur Rahman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and Abdul Mannan of the Awami League.

Replying to a question, Prof Matin said that eight persons have lost their life in the disturbances since the 10th of this month. It is not true that six of them were killed in 1 day, Saturday [28 November]. Since the 25th of last month, 4,832 have been arrested, and out of that number, 2,465 were detained after the imposition of the state of emergency.

In reply to another question, he said that 52 persons, including 12 lawyers, were arrested in Dhaka today for violating the emergency rules. Denying emphatically the allegation of using the Army, he said that only non-military law enforcement agencies, including the police and the Bangladesh Rifles, are being used to implement the emergency rules.

In reply to another question, the deputy prime minister said that the issue of relaxing the emergency situation is under consideration by the government. With the gradual improvement of the situation, the time limit of the curfew will be slowly reduced.

He said that normal life is already returning to the capital and divisional cities in response to the liberal appeal made by the president in his address to the nation last Saturday.

More on Leaders' Release

BK301458 London BBC World Service in English
1200 GMT 30 Nov 87

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Reports from the Bangladesh capital, Dhaka, say there were frequent explosions and bursts of rifle fire on the 2d day of the latest strike called by the opposition in its campaign to bring down President Ershad. The reports reach London from business sources in Dhaka because of the blackout on news except for government statements. There has been no confirmation. Our reporter in Dhaka, Phil Jones, says, however, that the government has released three members of the main opposition parties who were being held under the special powers act.

[Begin Jones recording] All three were arrested under the Special Powers Act which gives the government sweeping authority to detain people indefinitely without charge. It said that over 5,000 members of the opposition are being held throughout the country. But today Mr Abdul Mannan, a former home minister and a member of the presidium of the Awami League, was released. He had been held for a month, and said later he had no idea why he had been given his freedom. Also freed were Zahida Rahman Zahid, the Dhaka secretary of the other main opposition party, the BNP. A little earlier, another BNP member, Jahanara Begum, was also released. She had been held for 19 days under house arrest in the home of the party chairman, Khaleda Zia, who is still being detained there. Both women were arrested on 11 November, a day after opposition protest started. They were preparing to attend a rally. The release has come shortly after the president went on nationwide television to offer negotiations with the opposition and early election if they were wanted. But there is still no indication that that process has started, (?as) all news from here must now come from government sources only under the state of emergency. Meanwhile, BBC man, Ataus Samad, is still being held in the central jail 6 days after being arrested under the act. No reasons have been detailed except that it was for internal political considerations. His wife visited him today and said later that he still could not understand why he was being held. He never belonged to a political party and the only connection he had had with politics had been in his capacity as a professional journalist. [end recording]

CPC Support for Ershad's Peace Moves Cited

BK010214 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] The Chinese Communist Party has supported the measures taken by President Ershad for restoring peace, stability, and normal life in the country. The support was conveyed by Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang while the visiting secretary general of Jatiya Party and deputy prime minister, Shah Moazzam Hussain,

called on him in Beijing. Mr Zhao Ziyang expressed his concern at the recent disturbances in Bangladesh and hoped for an early restoration of normalcy in the country.

The Chinese leader also appreciated the role of President Ershad in promoting friendship between the two countries. He expressed his confidence that the existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between Dhaka and Beijing will be further strengthened in future.

India

Border Security Force Kills 6 Pakistanis *BK301626 Hong Kong AFP in English 1521 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] Amritsar, India, Nov 30 (AFP)—Indian border guards shot dead six Pakistanis who were trying to cross the border illegally into the Indian Punjab early Monday, officials said here.

A spokesman for the Border Security Force (BSF) said the six were among nine Pakistanis who opened fire on BSF troops when challenged at a border check-post at Medhipur, 55 kilometres (33 miles) from this Sikh holy city.

They were killed in an ensuing gunbattle. The remaining three fled back into Pakistan, the spokesman said.

He said the BSF had also arrested 67 Bangladeshis who were trying to cross into Pakistan from Punjab after arriving in India clandestinely.

The BSF is responsible for security on India's international borders.

Further on 'Intruders'

*BK010307 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] Six intruders from Pakistan were killed in two encounters with the Border Security Force in Punjab yesterday. The encounters occurred near the Mehdiapur area in the Khem Karan sector of Amritsar District. Three of the intruders managed to escape.

In Jammu and Kashmir, 50 Pakistan spies and smugglers have been arrested, and smuggled goods and foreign currencies worth about a crore of rupees have been seized by the Border Security Force during the last year in Jammu division.

Delhi Daily Welcomes Progress in PRC Talks *BK291003 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 19 Nov 87 p 13*

[Editorial: "On the Right Track"]

[Text] The eighth round of the India-China boundary talks which ended in New Delhi on Tuesday marks a new phase in Sino-Indian relations. The positive outcome of the meet is the clear demonstration by the two sides of their will to improve and expand their ties. To achieve this, they took the vital decision that peace and tranquillity would be maintained till a negotiated settlement of the boundary question has been reached. This amounts to freezing of tension along the border enabling the two sides to look at the problem in an overall context. In the Indian appreciation, an atmosphere has been created for the further development of relations in all fields and for the settlement of differences. It was thus natural that India should be telling China that it wanted to reconstruct its relations with Beijing and build a favourable climate of mutual trust.

Among the most encouraging results of the talks is the joint emphasis on friendly relations which, both sides noted, were vital for maintaining peace in Asia. Regrettably, the absence of such ties and a degree of mistrust have often prevented the two from playing a positive role in Asian affairs. Improved Sino-Indian relations could make a substantial contribution to the resolution of the Afghanistan and Kampuchean issues. Nearer home, better ties between New Delhi and Beijing will make a vast difference to the prospects of success of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

A gratifying aspect of the eighth round was the cordiality that marked the talks, despite the possibility of injecting a discordant note into them. Unlike the Sumdorong Chu Valley incident that had cast a shadow over the seventh round of talks, no contentious issue was allowed to cloud the New Delhi meet. For this, India could claim legitimate credit, not having bowed to suggestions for raising the human rights question for the Tibetans or the Lhasa violence. India has taken a principled stand of recognising Tibet as an autonomous region of China, and has not wavered from the position even in the face of criticism. This is the kind of evidence nations need for confidence-building, and it would be natural to expect Beijing to reciprocate. There was yet another evidence of cordiality that was not perhaps adequately noticed. The Prime Minister of India received the Chinese delegation, a gesture that was absent in the earlier rounds. Keeping up the new spirit of cooperation that has been generated, the two countries should soon meet at the level of their Foreign Ministers. That will mark the beginning of raising the Sino-Indian dialogue to the political level, and pave the way for a summit between Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the

Chinese communist Party. In principle, a meeting at the highest level has apparently been agreed upon. It is for the two Governments now to work out the details leading to the summit.

Iran

Further Reportage on Return of Gorji, Torri

Karachi Exchange Venue

*LD301441 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA—Iran's Vahid Gorji and France's Jean Paul Torri were exchanged in Karachi, Pakistan, some minutes ago.

The Iranian Embassy's interpreter in Paris, Vahid Gorji and French consul in Tehran Jean Paul Torri, were swapped in Pakistan Monday, according to a Prime Ministry official here today.

The official told IRNA that Gorji and Torri are now on their ways back home. The selection of Pakistan as the third party was made upon Iran's proposal, he added.

The cordon set up earlier around the French Embassy in Tehran was removed by Iran and then France dismantled the barricades it had placed at the Iranian Embassy in Paris. Consequently the staffers of the two embassies are now free to leave or enter their embassies' premises.

With the exchange of Gorji with Torri followed by lifting of the siege of the French Embassy in Tehran and the Iranian Embassy in Paris, the five-month old crisis in Irano-French diplomatic relations seems to be nearing its end.

Pakistan is now taking care of the Islamic Republic's interests in Paris.

Ties With France Normalized

*LD301729 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1641 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] Our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs tonight issued a statement about the normalization of relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and France. The statement says: Following efforts by the Islamic Republic of Iran and France to resume relations and after repeated insistence by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the need to observe international conventions, particularly the Vienna Convention, concerning diplomatic issues, the French Government agreed that Mr Jean Paul Torri be present at the Islamic Revolution Tribunal in Evian Prison last night to answer questions from the judge regarding the alleged accusations.

After he made his remarks, Mr Jean Paul Torri was able to leave the Islamic Republic of Iran within the context of a normalization of relations between the two countries. Mr Vahid Gorji, an employee of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Paris, was also able to return to Tehran, and the siege of the two countries' embassies was lifted.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran states that recent steps have played a positive role in normalizing relations between the two countries and have been effective in implementing the legitimate demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The ministry announces that the speedy and decisive solution of the issue of the \$1 billion loan by the Atomic Energy Organization to the French Atomic Energy Commissariat and related issues, as well as other issues agreed on by the two countries, can assist the returning of bilateral relations to a satisfactory level.

Cabinet on French Ties, Finances

*LD301902 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Text] The Cabinet held a session this afternoon at which the most important domestic and foreign reports were discussed. Prime Minister Musavi informed the Cabinet of recent developments in political relations between Iran and France. The report by the Cabinet's economic committee was discussed and a number of the proposals by ministries and organizations were approved.

According to this report, the allocation of 1.25 billion rials to help municipalities and 150 million rials for the current expenditures by the Ministry of Education and Training in deprived areas were approved at today's Cabinet session.

Commentary on 'New Trend' in Ties

*LD301316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1101 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Station commentary: "The New Trend in Relations Between Iran and France"]

[Text] Now that French police have removed the barriers around the Iranian Embassy, and reports have been published on the departure from France of Vahid Gorji, member of the Iranian Mission in Paris, relations between the two countries have entered a new phase.

The ties between Iran and France have had a number of ups and downs since the victory of the Islamic Revolution. After the Chirac government came to power in Paris, a new chapter in bilateral relations was opened. The French Government took practical and positive steps to clarify its policy toward Iran. The measures taken and the remarks made by French officials gave the general impression that our relations had a better future.

However, following incidents at the two countries' embassies, caused mainly by internal clashes and inter-group rivalries among parties in that country, the expansion and deepening of our ties faced a major obstacle. That obstacle resulted in the breaking of diplomatic relations between Iran and France, owing to the insistence of and copious propaganda by rival political groups in France.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has always advocated healthy and mutually beneficial relations with other countries. Today, many nations of the world that have recognized Iran's interests, respect the wishes of the Iranian people, and have adapted their policies toward Iran accordingly, have friendly ties with Iran. Consequently, under the current circumstances, due to Iran's important and sensitive role in the region, the increasing strength of the Islamic Republic, and its initiative in its confrontation with Iraq's Ba'thist regime, a number of countries favor of deeper relations and expanded ties with Iran.

In light of all this, French officials cannot deny Iran's position. Furthermore, any confrontation with Iran or inappropriate clashes with a country located in such a sensitive part of the Middle East, which is also the focus of world attention, contradict French policy in the region. In any case, French officials are assessing their presence in the area after Saddam's collapse.

In the meantime, it is clear that the Gorji incident testifies more to internal rivalry among various groups in France than a lack of understanding in bilateral relations. In the course of this episode, French national interests were sacrificed to the rivalry among various groups, and the actions of the police were described as unworthy of a government by the French authorities themselves.

Thus, it seems that with the announcement of the Iranian diplomat's departure from France, this issue, considered a major obstacle in relations between the two countries, has been resolved.

Of course, certain political propagandists see the release of two French hostages in Lebanon as progress toward a solution of existing differences between Paris and Tehran and, consequently, toward the restoration of normal relations with Iran. In fact, there is no connection between the release of the hostages and the normalization of relations. It is obvious that the improvement of our ties with France depends on how the French Government behaves, especially in terms of the conditions announced by Iran.

Although France's recent action is considered positive—it may be called a step toward an improvement in bilateral relations—French officials should remember that their country's ungrudging supply of arms to the warmongering Iraqi regime and the fact that this is intolerable to the Iranian nation will have a decisive,

negative effect on the trend of improved ties between us. In addition, any delay or procrastination in the repayment of Iran's \$1-billion loan, which, with interest, totals about \$2 billion now, would call the French Government's sincerity into question.

By taking action to settle these problems and to prevent activities and propaganda in France against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the French Government could hope to improve that country's reputation among the Muslim people of Iran. As such, Iran would welcome any measure within our publicly declared positions that would prove France's sincerity, and would deem such action an effective step toward improving relations between our two states.

Majlis Speaker Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon
LD272100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1554 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Friday Prayers political sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 27 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [Koranic verses in Arabic omitted] This week our important anniversaries include the anniversary of the Mobilization of the Oppressed and the 20-million Army; the anniversary of the victory of the Navy marked by Navy Day; the anniversary of the birth of our glorified Imam Hazrat Asgari [11th Shi'ite imam]; and the anniversary of the martyrdom of Moddazzeq and Mirza Kuchek Khan [early 20th century Iranian figures], whose memories we hold dear. As for the current affairs of our country, we have held a very important conference on the sanctity and security of the two sanctuaries. The guests at the conference are now present at the Friday prayers ceremony. More importantly, the current exercises of the fighting forces—exercises which have covered the length and breadth of the country—have been held. There are also the victorious "Nasr-8" and "Nasr-9" operations. I will explain them all in one debate, a comprehensive debate which covers them all.

Regarding the importance of mobilization, we are now celebrating Mobilization Week and we have a great deal to say about the exercises. We will not talk separately about the exercises, although we will include them in the debate. For the role it plays in guarding the seas and in preventing the wrongdoing of the aggressive Western forces, the Navy...[Hashemi-Rafsanjani changes thought] We daily witness the Navy's successes and services.

However, the most important issue that our nation must learn about in these sermons is the current situation in the country—the situation of the war and the region. These will be the linchpin of the debate. Then we will go on to other issues.

It seems that the existing current events of our country this week—these vast exercises now going on all over the country—are in themselves a very important victory for this nation and the Islamic Revolution, although nothing follows them; something will follow them. Now I will explain. Of course, as far as we are concerned, they are a prelude to fundamental victories. However, to the extent that they have taken place, these exercises are in themselves an important victory. Why? Because, since the beginning of this year we have been engaged in a psychological war; that is, our ongoing war with global infidels, led by America, is a psychological war. That is the reality now. We do not know what will happen next. This psychological war might finish the issue; or it may happen that we will be faced with an official and military war as well. We must say that we are fully victorious in this psychological war. And America has been fully defeated.

What is the objective of psychological war? The objective is to crush the morale of the opposing side. Once this has been achieved, other phases will follow. Victories that come after military confrontations, when the opposing forces are forced to retreat or when territory is captured and so on, should come after psychological warfare. Military victories are one kind, but when one side's morale is broken, the job is finished. Then the arena is open for the military forces to deal with the defeated side which is about to surrender. Now, let us see if the morale of the Iranian nation has been broken in this instance or if the United States has been successful in doing so. Even if we had not achieved anything, it would have been enough, that is to say, the scene of the Friday prayers today is enough to make one believe that the United States has been defeated. However, we have other evidence as well.

When people were leaving their houses today to attend the Friday prayers, it started raining in Tehran. Yet, people were prepared to get wet. The crowds of people who, we have been told, have filled the streets, are unbelievable. I wish to thank the forces which have taken part in the prayers. [passage omitted noting different groups of people present]

You saw what is happening in the country on television last week. I was present at some of these places and felt deeply the mood of the people. They were in such a state of ecstasy, excitement, and enthusiasm that no language, art, or prose could describe them. You have to be there to experience it. Of course, we have had such scenes in the past, this is nothing new. In the past 8 or 10 years we have been climbing the heights, but in my opinion these days are the climax. About 600,000 mobilization forces gathered in Khorasan and Mashhad. They gathered in the street outside the holy shrine in Tehran Street which is quite wide—wider than the shrine itself—and stretched out to five squares beyond, to (Zed) Square and even further. The officials of the holy shrine had set up speakers but we received repeated phone calls saying that people at the back could not hear.

I looked from above at the street and as far as I could see it was filled with people and flags so tightly packed that they could hardly sit. The people of Mashhad had come. The nature of the slogans, the remarks, and the talk raised one's spirits to heaven. When I entered Sari Stadium and met the people, their feelings were such that, instead of making a speech I sat down for a while and took photographs. O Lord, what kind of beings are these? What kind of people are these? What sort of feelings do they have? What is going on in their hearts? What sort of fire is burning within them? People passed out. We were watching from above and people who had fainted were being passed forward overhead in order to receive attention. An area was covered with these people. That is the extent of the popular feeling. In Gonbad-e Qabus, where the Shi'ites and Sunnis live side by side, we saw a scene that I found unbelievable for a city with that sort of mixture—people united and of one mind. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately we have no time. Our duties force us to stay in Tehran because of the various problems that take up most of our time. If we could, we would go among these people in other places and closely observe these things we see on film. The scene in Sanandaj yesterday was not to be missed. I was in Karaj yesterday. Heavy snow was falling but the streets were filled with men and women who had been out in the snow for hours in order to express their presence in the face of the United States and our enemies. Is this a victory for the United States? If one wishes to win a psychological war and ends up with such a result, then this cannot be failure. If the United States wanted to create such fervor in a nation, had spent billions of dollars on work, propaganda, propagandists, and promise, such a thing would not have been possible. The best way was to send their ships in order to create fear and have this nation respond in this manner. Therefore, if the intention of psychological war is to break the morale of the opposition, then the Americans must admit they have been decisively defeated and disgraced. [chants of "God is great, God is great, Khomeyni is the leader," "Death to counterrevolutionaries," "Death to the United States," "Islam will win and the United States will be (?destroyed)]. God willing, thank you.

As far as finances are concerned, most of our dealings right now are with the deprived classes. Of course, some of the wealthy have done some good things. However, it is mainly the deprived classes or the middle classes who are on the scene. A financial motivation has appeared among the people. Those who cannot afford it join together in groups of two and three, sell their earrings and watches to amass enough money for one warrior; they give it to the banks. You see from the news the sort of direction that workers and civil servants, who are financially among the oppressed of society, are taking. If we were to describe all of the instances, it would fill a thick book. Of course, all of these should be collected one day. However, some remain in one's memory. For example, a lady from the Voice and Vision sent me a letter,

which I received in my office yesterday, together with some jewelry. She wrote that she was an employee of 4 or 5 years' standing and had received the jewelry at her wedding. Along with all her savings, she sent this jewelry to support the warriors. She said that she realized that her donation could not be of any importance compared with the value of the warriors. The jewelry consisted of seven or eight rings, some necklaces, a few bangles and other such things. [passage omitted]

The people have responded in an unprecedented manner. They are moving in an unprecedented way. In this phase we have asked people to take voluntary steps. We have not yet reached national mobilization, neither in manpower or financially, not at this stage. We can not forecast the future. If popular financial support and volunteers supply the needs of our war program, then we may not need to have a national mobilization law or a war tax. However, it is possible that such a situation will arise in the future. This is because we are facing the United States. We are no longer facing the Iraqi Ba'ath Party; we are facing NATO. Many things can happen. However, at this stage we do not need to do this.

The counterrevolution has disseminated rumors that we want to confiscate people's property. Such things apply only to national mobilization. If we declare national mobilization, then we have to call up all our reserves. That is the law. Our conscription law states that a conscript serves for 2 years, and then he is on reserve for 30 years. Anyone who served 30 years ago can be called up as needed under national mobilization. Under such circumstances, many people show up and, because of the numbers, we may have to confiscate wealth to support them. However, right now we are still at the volunteer stage.

Of course, there are some sectors such as university students nearing the completion of their courses, whose specialization is needed. They are to serve for 6 months at the fronts now for war support activity. We will use all the facilities that are at the disposal of the government. However, we are at the volunteer stage now and, thank God, this wave of volunteers will not bring us to the stage of national mobilization or further stages. So what are the achievements of the Americans in this psychological war and what have they won?

The situation has reached the point where even Kuwait is now criticizing the United States. The Kuwaiti press yesterday wrote that the United States came here and has disgraced us instead of supporting us. They expected the Americans to come, become involved in a conflict, and fight for them. Now that they have realized that the Americans cannot fight, their tongues have sharpened.

The authorities in some Western countries have said that the disgrace which the United States has brought on Westerners and NATO has never before been experienced by them throughout history. We have dispatched our forces to places where we do not know if our ships

will be afloat or sunk the next day. When our children return from that place, the Persian Gulf, they say they have returned from hell. That is how they interpret it. They are right.

Iraqi planes appeared over the sea last night. For a long time there was a severe bout of psychological war over one of the U.S. war vessels. It saw a plane coming out of the distance. The ship issued warnings, but the plane continued to come forward. They are afraid of their own shadow. That is the kind of life the Americans have created for themselves. Now this is psychological warfare. Look at what goes on in the United States and then see what goes on here. What goes on in the U.S. Congress? What goes on in our Majlis? What goes on within the U.S. Administration and what goes on here? What victory? What psychological warfare? What they did was anti-psychological [as heard]; it was unwise, it was foolishness.

I know of a phase in the history of Islam in which psychological warfare erupted between the Prophet and the infidels of Quraysh [name of Arab tribe at the time]. It led to the victory of the Prophet. I think that it is the most suitable example to cite here so that you can see that the Prophet also had to deal with such issues, that he also had such problems. [passage omitted]

The Great Satan was defeated then. This corresponds precisely to our situation today. We see the reflection of faith in our country stronger than ever. We see the people more ready to go to war more than at any other time, even to the frontlines. [passage omitted].

Now the Iraqis have received so telling a blow in the "Nasr-8" operation that they realize it is not in their interest to talk about it. And we, too, at present see no need to explain the dimensions of this victory. I will merely mention some relevant points.

In general, and briefly, I say that "Nasr-8" is our small Al-Faw in the north. The same defeat suffered by the Iraqis in Al-Faw has now befallen them here. There is a tight passage between the two summits of (Amish) and (Bujar). The Iraqis must pass through them to mount their attacks. We placed tanks and artillery and mortar launchers there. When they want to pass through, torrents of shells suddenly fall on their heads. At night they mount small-scale attacks in the darkness, then they flee. It has become a graveyard for the Iraqis; at some points the corpses are piled up; they cannot go retrieve them. Therefore, a canal has been opened up to the depth of Kurdistan. Now between our forces and the liberated center of the Talebanis [Kurdish insurgents in Iraq] there is only a valley.

It is an area Iraq has been struggling for 2 to 3 years to take back from the Talebanis, but it has not been able to do so. There is now a canal 10 km long from our territory to Iraqi Kurdistan. If it decides to close this canal, it will not be able to do so, not with its existing forces. This is

worse than Al-Faw. It is interesting that the Iraqi regime denies this. However, when we take correspondents there, it will be clear why they deny it.

The prisoners of war we have taken among the Iraqis have told us interesting things. Just now I received this information from Mr Rezai'e [Islamic Revolution Guard Corps commander]. I do not know whether he has talked about them in his remarks or not. These are interesting as my remarks are being broadcast.

We have taken around 280 POW's. Only 200 or so have been announced as yet. Of them, 184 prisoners from 184 families have said these things to us. So there are 184 families from which we have prisoners. Then those families who have 184 prisoners with us have previously given 192 POWs or MIAs. These very families. Now you can judge the situation of the Iraqis according to these figures. This psychological war has seriously destabilized Iraq, it has hurt Iraq. Rather than it boosting Iraqi morale, it actually shattered it. [passage omitted]

These 184 families have already had 26 dead in the war. They now have 23 disabled; and 20 members of these same 184 families are deserters. They are soldiers who have deserted and I do not know where they are.

One of their commanders said that a few days ago Iraq attacked a village in the Kirkuk region — this was in the news but not in much detail—called Iman. This village is where they treated their people the same way the Israelis treated the Palestinians in Deir Yasin. This is because these were people who would not surrender, would not accept the draft, and refused to be evacuated. They were massacred. Two hundred villagers were murdered in front of the others. One woman escaped and went to an area where (Josh) forces in the service of the Iraqis gave her sanctuary because they are Kurds and so was she. Later on Iraqi security forces investigated, found the woman, and murdered her and the six (Josh) on the spot.

These are the living conditions within Iraq right now. This is the result of the psychological warfare that they started. This is the U.S. victory. This is the condition that the United States created for the region. This is the security that the United States created for the people of the region. They came for reasons of security. Whether or not they ensured their own security, that of the region, or other areas, you decide. Our nation now understands that it is not fighting Iraq but is confronting international infidelity and oppression and that it should be prepared for a lengthy jihad. It realized that the Ba'th party is so important for international oppression that it is prepared to finance the situation. It will do so, and because of this we have issued a general invitation. Our nation has responded and we expect the level of registration to be so great that we will be able to plan long-term attacks and lengthy onslaughts. We expect our nation to support our warriors so fully that we would not be forced to impose a new budget on the problematic government budget, in order for the government to offer

services behind the fronts to our people. The news that is reaching us and the effects that we witness confirm this. Before my Arabic sermon, again I stress that all our warriors and people should maintain holy purity and carry out our their duties. [passage omitted]

Lebanese Muslim Leader's Address

LD271746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, the leader of Lebanon's Islamic Unification Movement, was one of the pre-sermon speakers at the Friday prayer ceremonies in Tehran today. Noting that we will liberate Islam, Mecca, and Al-Madinah from the corrupt, and that the Muslims should practice all aspects and commandments of Islam—in which case they will become an ummah that no power can defeat—he said: With Islam the Muslim Iranian nation overthrew the shah's puppet regime, set up a system based on piety, and became a nation spearheading the glory and greatness of Islam; the ummah's hope was revived with Imam Khomeyni. One can say that by obedience to God, God's messenger, and the lord of the ages, we can liberate our nation from the domination of hegemonists anywhere in the world and march forward. For this reason I declare that after obedience to God and to the messenger of God, the greatest way to get close to God is by obedience to the Imam, may God protect him. Any slackening in obedience to the leadership will be an extremely dangerous thing leading to many tragedies, particularly because today the whole world has become united against this glorious revolution which is the hope of Muslims the world over.

The leader of Lebanon's Islamic Unification Movement stated: Those who do not accept Imam's Khomeyni's supreme religious leadership [wilaya] or those who are still hesitating to accept rule by jurisconsult [velayat-e faqih] appear to prefer the rule of the United States and global arrogance; they are seeking to return Iran and the whole Islamic world to the period of colonialism and arrogance. I believe that when the imam raised the issue of rule by jurisconsult he wanted only to display the dignity of Islam, an Islam by which the Most Exalted God has dignified the Islamic ummah.

Guards Corps Commander's Speech

LD301454 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0933 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Speech by Mohsen Rezai'e, commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, at the Friday prayers ceremony in Tehran on 27 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] Now that our martyr-nurturing nation is on the threshold of a drastic change, we must review the political and military situation at the fronts. This will give us a better understanding of our own duties, which will allow us to make better plans, win our victory, and restore the rights and standards we seek.

There have been many incidents and developments this year in the Persian Gulf, the Middle East, and Iraq itself. The overall effect of these events has been to increase the sensitivity and peculiarity of the present time, making the current year an outstanding period in our history. [passage omitted]

The events and developments of the past year all demonstrate the noticeable progress made by the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

As for our military advances in the past year, both in our border battles and our actions on Iraqi soil, we won victories and drove ahead in our operations, which were executed with confidence. Thanks to these military actions and operations, heavy and fatal blows were dealt to Iraq's war machine last year. The morale of the Iraqi Armed Forces was weakened, some Iraqi territory was liberated, and a deep political rift was created in the enemy ranks. The blows we delivered include the operation to liberate Mehran, which was carried out in the month of Tir [22 June to 22 July] last year. That was followed by Mehran's delivery from enemy hands in Tir last year, the destruction of the Al-'Amayah oil platform in the "Karbala'-3" operations, the liberation of Shalamchah and the heavy damage inflicted on Iraq's war machine, and other actions that resulted in the liberation of important heights in the northwestern part of the country and the freeing of Mawat in northern Iraq.

The outcome of these actions may be seen first of all in the effective blows dealt Iraq's war machine. In terms of casualties and damage to machinery and equipment, they were quite noticeable and severe. These operations also led to the liberation of some Iraqi territory.

In the course of our cross-border warfare in the past year, we saw something that was truly eye-catching, a great leap in the conflict. We managed to broaden the operations carried out deep inside Iraq. The battle spread to cover many Iraqi provinces. This important development occurred last year. The first operation that launched this trend inside Iraq was "Fath-1." During "Fath-1," the warriors of Islam attacked the Kirkuk oil fields and some other centers and military garrisons in the Iraqi area of Kirkuk. Thus, the oil facilities were destroyed at a time when international oil prices had fallen considerably, and all Islamic countries, including our own, suffered a heavy blow. We needed another oil crisis, which would make prices rise, rectify the wrong done to us, and stop the aggression.

"Fath-1" was staged in Kirkuk. Our fighters, along with Iraqi mujahidin, reached Kirkuk and occupied oil facilities and centers where 2 million barrels of oil a day are exported through Turkey. Extraction centers, pumps, and oil refineries were attacked by the warriors of Islam in "Fath-1." This was the start of our leap forward in extraterritorial warfare. Irregular warfare continued

after this action. The fruits of our unconventional warfare deep inside Iraq include many operations, which have dealt heavy blows to Iraq's economy, Armed Forces, and police state.

Additional operations were carried out inside Iraq. These include the "Fath" series of 10 operations and the "Zafar" actions, which began this year. In contrast to our earlier operations, when our fighters struck economic and military centers inside Iraq in groups of 2 or 3, our irregular warfare operations last year involved units of 200 or 300 men. During "Fath-1," 700 Iranian and Iraqi warriors attacked and destroyed oil facilities. In fact, we launched a wave of guerrilla operations. During these missions, a mass of guerrillas would arrive in a region, occupy it for 24 or 48 hours, and carry out serious actions against the enemy. That was how our unconventional units achieved their important results last year.

Our missile system became operational last year. Our surface-to-sea missiles became operational then, but we have made greater use of them this year. That is due only to the work done last year. Our surface-to-air missiles were employed against Iraqi MIG's, which used to bomb Tehran, Tabriz, and Esfahan from a high altitude. We shot down our first Iraqi MIG-25 over Esfahan. There have not been any similar flights by MIG's over the Islamic Republic since then. Surface-to-surface missiles, which were made operational in previous years, were strengthened as well. I will mention them again at the end of my speech. [passage omitted]

Clearly, these military advances have placed us in a new position of superiority and have changed the international equations of the past. They have also heightened the influence and effectiveness of our revolution in the region, in the Islamic world, and throughout the world as a whole. Indeed, they have given it greater strength. This military superiority has accorded us a special status. Certainly, the world cannot remain indifferent to our special military position. So far we have discussed the military. I have examined our military advances and the axes of development, and have said that this progress has placed us in a position of military superiority.

The second advance we made last year concerns our military industries. We announced that last year would be Military Industries Year. Even our technical schools and centers could come to the assistance of the fighters of Islam by producing mortars, ammunition, and weapons. This was the policy we launched last year, with God's blessing. Initially, they frightened us a great deal about this. They used to say it was a risky venture, that many terrible explosions could take place, that a large number of us would be killed while working in munitions factories, and that the Third World was not yet able to produce these types of things. They claimed that without foreign experts, it would be impossible to establish military industries and that we should not try to do so, as it was dangerous. They used to scare us. They were trying to create fear in our factories. This was done by the

monafeqin [hypocrites, referring to the Mojahedin], counterrevolutionaries from the inside, and the super-powers from the outside. They all tried very hard to prevent our dear workers from turning their hands to the production of weapons and munitions and to forestall our advances.

Through God's grace, we overcame that hurdle last year; we overcame the military industries hurdle. Even though military industries require a great deal of attention, precision, care, and very complex technology, with God's grace, we overcame that hurdle. We are still at the beginning of the road, we have only just begun, and we are still at the start compared to countries with 40 or 50 years of experience and knowledge of military industries.

Nevertheless, we conquered this terrible barrier, as the world portrayed it, and we surmounted the false fears they created. We launched our industries on our own. We started to manufacture the tools, weapons, and munitions which the Islamic revolution needed for Islamic holy war and defense. The outcome of this advance was that, first of all, we started to manufacture munitions that had been purchased abroad in the past. I will not hesitate to say that we are now self-sufficient in light and medium munitions. As for heavy munitions, we must try harder and bring greater effort to bear.

Our munitions production and efforts to establish military industries have taken our defensive capability and ability to safeguard the revolution to a point where the world is now quite frightened of us. They have been forced to reconsider their assessment of us as only a group of many millions without weapons. We are many millions strong, and in past years we demonstrated in the streets while being dependent on the black market and other very difficult processes for arms and ammunition.

Today the world knows that the same vast group, many millions strong, now stands on its own two feet, turning out its own weapons.

Such a prospect is very frightening to the world, for the world is afraid of crowds that are many millions strong. It fears political demonstrations and struggles. However, the world thinks it can confront political action. Political moves deal blows to the world, but the world feels capable of controlling them. The world is quite afraid of national political struggles, but it is confident of its ability to come back a few years later through a different door or window.

However, when the world realizes that these masses, so many millions strong and engaged in political struggle are armed as well, that the throngs who take part in marches and demonstrations also produce their own weapons, the world's fears, the world's calculations, and the world's equations will be quite different from the past.

Last year, when we formed military industries in our country, the world had the same sense of fear. Clearly, our fighting and defensive capability and our military superiority had reached a higher level vis-a-vis Iraq and the military equation that existed in the Persian Gulf. That equation was created by East and West. We went one step further and achieved a new level of military superiority. That was the second dimension of our advances in military industries.

The third dimension concerns our political advances in the past year. During that period, we succeeded in increasing the price of our oil through political action by our country's officials. In the past year the price of oil was brought to its lowest possible level. Last year, the price had plummeted to \$10, and sometimes even \$9, a barrel. Thanks to our extensive political activities around the world, we made broad revelations, threatened the world, and forced them to raise the price of oil to 17, 18, 19, and even \$20 a barrel at the end of last year.

This was a product of political moves, which were based on earlier advances that acted as a backup for our political action. From the very worrying situation we faced, we managed to increase the price of oil to \$17 or \$18 and at times it even reached \$20. This was another of our great achievements.

Our second accomplishment was that, politically, we were able to tell the world about political realities, and to expose the hands of the United States and Saddam. We also succeeded in getting an international resolution condemning Saddam and Iraq's chemical bombings of our country. This, too, was very effective, and we were able to reveal the true face of Saddam and his supporters. In addition, we managed to gain the world's endorsement against Saddam's aggression and crimes, and against his chemical bombings and chemical artillery barrages. We revealed them to the world and received its endorsement against Saddam. This was another of our political accomplishments.

Our third achievement was to reveal America's weakness. In the past year we succeeded in showing America's impotence behind the gates of the Islamic Republic to the entire world. We exposed America's disgrace and degradation, and its pleas and requests to come back to the Islamic revolution. The McFarlane affair involved one of America's most senior officials. He came to Iran in a covert and illegal way, and we exposed his trip. We divulged America's feeble attempts to return to the Islamic revolution and to be readmitted to our country. The first blow delivered to the United States by that exposure was the disruption of political unity with America in the region. The treasonous bonds between reactionary Arab leaders and the United States grew weaker, and the lack of trust felt by America's friends grew stronger. Fear and anxiety filled the heart of every

friend of America, and its political stature in the region, as well as the political unity between the United States and reactionary leaders in the Persian Gulf, were exposed.

When we exposed America's weakness, this political unity also grew weaker. We were able to undermine and destroy the bonds of trust that existed between the two sides, one side treasonous and hypocritical, the other blasphemous and infidel. Not only was the United States unable to find a way to return to the Islamic revolution, but, in fact, it also lost its regional and international reputation and the trust it enjoyed among Arab countries. This has had some very profound repercussions, which have yet to be completely revealed, on the palaces of Fakhri, Malek Husayn, and other American lackeys. The secret effects of America's desperation have left deep and lasting scars in light of its support for the shah, the shah's lack of trust in the United States, and the lack of backing for the shah in his final moments, when he had even gone to the United States and everyone saw that Washington had sacrificed him to get its hostages back. In view of the history of the shah's relations with America, which the reactionary leaders were aware of, the exposure of McFarlane's desperation in our country increased the degree of mistrust they felt toward the United States. This, too, was one of our successes in the past year.

As we have seen, we have also had a number of political achievements: an increase in the price of oil, the exposure of America's desperation, and subsequent events. All these, together with our military victories, which I have explained, have created a new situation.

On one hand, we acquired a political and military supremacy that brought us to the brink of a decisive victory, while on the other, Saddam, who was responsible for defending American interests, was undermined and suffered serious blows. These grave blows and instability, combined with our military and political supremacy, forced the United States to shield Saddam. It did so to forestall our decisive triumph and prevent the victory of the Islamic revolution. Thus, as far as America's military presence in the region is concerned, our blows were so effective that the Americans had to retreat into their shells in the Persian Gulf. Many of the ships hit in tit for tat attacks in response to Iraqi strikes have been quite close to U.S. war convoys. However, the Americans have withdrawn into their shells like dead snails and have lost their power to react.

Nor has America's military presence prevented us from continuing our attacks on Iraq. That presence was designed first, to threaten us and make us pull back, and second, to compel us to stop our military actions against Iraq. Since the Americans came to the Persian Gulf, we have liberated the town of Mawat and the Dopazah heights. We have kept up our operations, and with the wave of people who have announced their readiness to go to the fronts, to which I will refer later, we see a new

event taking place. America's arrival in the Gulf has not only failed to prevent our victory in Iraq, but has actually increased our confidence and strengthened our hopes for a decisive triumph. The signs of this hope can be seen and felt in our country.

America's second conspiracy against us this year was political. They felt that their military plots should be accompanied by a political one. The Americans gathered signatures from all countries of the world and took their document to the United Nations, where they wrote it up as a resolution. Thus, Resolution 598 was passed. Its goal was to make us give an official written reply stating that we either accepted or rejected it. Had we done either, the Americans were ready to take their second political step and draft a second resolution.

But why did the Americans have to do this? If they were to get a second resolution passed calling for an economic embargo against Iran, they had to put us in a position where we were against the entire world. To do this, they employed a subtle tactic. They told the whole world that there was no need for military action or extreme reactions against the Islamic Republic. All those countries that agreed Iran should not win the war were asked to sign the resolution. However, the document said that Iran should accept a cease-fire and return to its international borders. The Americans, Iraqis, and their supporters, including the monafeqin and the counterrevolutionaries, began their propaganda campaign. They said that Iran should answer, and that its reply should be clear, stating whether it accepted or rejected the resolution. We announced that we would give our answer in the United Nations and delayed our response for 2 months.

At the United Nations, the night before Mr Khamene'i's address, the American President delivered a speech, saying that when the Iranian president spoke the next day he should be clear in his response. He claimed that Iranians were playing dumb, that they refused to reply either way, that they were deceiving the world, and that they were wasting time. Their answer should be clear and one sentence long. We went to the United Nations and explained our revolution, Islam, and our views on the family, economy, justice, and freedom. We explained our ideological principles. That is to say, we expounded on all those issues that have been used against us for years as part of an international propaganda campaign.

You can compare our move at the General Assembly with the situation that would have prevailed had one of our revolutionaries been able to go on the shah's radio or television before the revolution to question the shah's entire system, to question all his conspiracies, and to speak for an hour about Islam and the Koran. Can you imagine the crisis that would have created for the shah's regime? We went to the United Nations and told the people about all the plots that had been hatched against us. Our words and arguments were broadcast around the world instantly. At that very moment, people in Africa

heard our arguments, people in our own country were listening. Europe and America were listening, and various nations in every part of the world heard what we had to say.

In conjunction with that move, the dear officials of our Foreign Ministry went and spoke with officials and representatives of every country with an important vote in the United Nations. They told them that the resolution they were approving had many ambiguous points. Some of them said we were lying and were simply trying to procrastinate. Some others said: Well, come and tell us what you have to say and let us know what your questions are. We discussed our doubts, and examined the ambiguous points of Resolution 598, which put the entire document into question. The Americans faced a great political dead end at the United Nations, where they were unable to secure approval for subsequent resolutions with the speed and haste they wanted. The point I am discussing was raised by our dear brothers in the Foreign Ministry in their contacts with representatives of foreign countries, who said Iran should accept a cease-fire and a return to international borders. They asked them what international boundaries they were talking about. If they are the frontiers defined in the Algiers accord, Saddam tore that agreement to pieces on the first day of the war. They said: You all know that Saddam ripped up that agreement. Where are the international boundaries after that accord was torn up? Are they in Baghdad, Basra, or where? First of all, you should determine where the borders are, so we can come and talk to you. You approved a resolution that is full of questions and ambiguous points and you want it implemented. That is wrong from a logical point of view.

The monafeqin, the Ba'thists, and the Americans began to spread a great deal of propaganda claiming that the Iranians were wasting time and did not want to give their answer. However, thank God, the Americans came up against a political dead end, and were unable to take the second step, which was an economic embargo. They wanted to have this economic embargo endorsed by every nation, but were unsuccessful. That was America's political conspiracy this year.

A worse fate befell their economic plot. When their political move failed, some of the countries with interests in Iran, like Japan and others, realized that the Americans were cheating them. They produced a film that was shown about a month ago on Japanese television. When the Americans saw that their political move was unsuccessful, they said they would impose an embargo on Iran, and that Japan and other countries should do so as well. Some Japanese went and produced a film to avoid being put under pressure, and they screened it in Japan. The film showed some of the facilities in the Islamic Republic, as well as Stinger missiles and the motors from some of our boats. They explained: When the Americans say that an economic embargo should be imposed on Iran, they mean that no country but America should sell anything to Iran. They

want to cheat us and we will not take part in the economic embargo. Thus, America's economic conspiracy failed as well. [passage omitted]

It is true that our successes have put us in a superior position and have brought us new gains. However, they are not enough for us. We have some programs that were started some time ago. One of them, which will run until 5 December 1987, concerns our reserve forces. Thus far, 3 million people have expressed their readiness to register as reservists. These maneuvers will continue until 3 December 1987, and will bring our gains in the formation of war reserves to a new level. We feel that this year, as many as 5 or 6 million fighters will register, be placed in reserve, and be made ready—so much so that whenever we decide to send 100,000, 200,000, 50,000, 500,000, or any other figure, we will have 6 million reservists behind the front. This is a new move that was begun this year and will continue until 3 December. Registration will open on 5 December, and the fighters of Islam will be given time allocations. Their names will be placed on the rolls on this basis. Those who are more prepared, who have been trained, who are redispach forces and want to be sent will be sent. The others will be registered for a later time, for a period that has been foreseen by our plan and program.

Later, we will introduce another campaign, which will create fresh enthusiasm and new activity among families. I am talking about the formation of divisions of sisters. Once this reserve force of 6 million is complete, divisions of sisters will be raised across the country. They will be put into combat formations and will be used for certain military purposes, including the production of weapons and munitions, and for activities and support behind the lines. This will generate new enthusiasm and activity at the fronts.

We will have reserve divisions, and by the end of this year [21 March 1988] our job will be to mobilize the people for popular participation. Of course, this is not mass mobilization. The world would like to say that the Iranians have declared a mass mobilization. That would allow them to ask later, regardless of the victories we may have won, why, since they brought 50 million people to the fronts, they did not succeed in going to Israel and liberating Jerusalem, which, God willing, we will free. However, we have not declared a mass mobilization. From the very start, we said this was not a mass mobilization. At the moment, we are merely forming reserves in our country, and that will be done by a special number of people.

Finally, as time is running out, I would like to summarize my comments to draw my conclusions. Today, the representative of God's Prophet is the imam of the ummah. He has called on our country to fight and wage holy war. Clearly, our lives, immortality, and very existence depend on our positive response to this appeal, to our saying yes to the imam. It is only by saying yes to the imam that we can ensure our existence and have

renewed life. People from different corners of the country may ask: Why do we not work on our economy? Why are we fighting? Why should we fight and struggle all the time? Can we have a prosperous and growing economy without struggle? What sort of economy do we have when we cannot determine the price of our oil in the world? What kind of policy is this when we cannot implement justice in the world?

Our problem is not shortages of meat or bread in the shops of Lebanon, Afghanistan, or Iran. There is no shortage of land or labor in the Islamic countries. Our problem is the freedom to set the price of oil extracted by the hard work of our laborers; to decide for ourselves and to sell our oil ourselves. However, the world is forcing its prices on us. Today our problem is to have the freedom to make decisions. Some time ago, America issued an ultimatum to Pakistan, declaring that all U.S. aid to that country would stop if Pakistan continued its nuclear research. How is it that America, France, and Britain are allowed to make atomic bombs but that Muslims are not permitted to do vital and principled work?

Our problem is a lack of freedom. The disruptive acts and slogans one sees in the country, including the one that says "We should not fight, why should we fight, we should put our economy right" are mistaken. The greatest error these people make is their failure to understand that we cannot compete in the world economy while we have no freedom. Our problem is how to go back to our Islamic power. [passage omitted]

As the imam of the ummah noted in his message, we will continue to fight, we will continue our struggle. We will either gain our freedom or reach a greater freedom, which is martyrdom. Peace be upon you all.

Khomeyni Receives War Victims, Families
LD301251 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Excerpts] The families of martyrs, the missing, POW's, and those crippled in the war from Quchan, Khorasan Province, together with their town's Majlis deputy and Friday imam, along with a number of other officials from the city, met with the imam of the ummah at Jamaran Mosque this morning. They were joined by families of martyrs, the missing, POW's, and those crippled in the war from Marvdasht, Fars Province, and a number of families of martyrs, the missing, POW's, and those crippled in the war from Tehran. Hojjat ol-Islam Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Islamic revolution's Shahid Foundation, delivered a speech. [passage omitted]

At the end of the meeting, the imam of the ummah responded to the expressions of emotion from the audience.

Khamene'i Addresses Mobilization Troops
LD301956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] We begin this hour's newscast with a report on the maneuvers involving 50 divisions from the mobilization forces of Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari Province. The exercises were held in Shahr-e Kord this afternoon, and were attended by Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council.

[Unidentified correspondent] In response to the call of the imam of ummah, our supreme commander, and in support of the 10-point statement by the Supreme Council for War Support on the glorious birthday of Imam Hasan 'Askari, peace be upon him, which falls during Mobilization Week, 50 divisions from the self-sacrificing mobilization forces of Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari Province, organized into 5 corps and 600 combat battalions, carried out glorious maneuvers this afternoon in Shahr-e Kord. These exercises were conducted in the presence of Hojjat ol-Islam val Moslemin Khamene'i, our country's honorable president.

The mobilization forces of zealous Bakhtiari tribesmen, accompanied by mobilization forces from the cities of Shahr-e Kord, [name indistinct], Borujen, (Mordegan), and other cities, districts, and villages in the province, entered Shahr-e Kord early this morning. They were in military formation and were warmly welcomed by tens of thousands of people from the province. After entering Shahr-e Kord, the units showed some of their skills and their readiness to oppose any form of aggression by the criminal United States and its servants.

These forces, chanting such crushing slogans as "War, war until victory" and "Death to the United States," voiced their readiness to go to the front and were stationed at various points under cover. The 600 battalions participating in the maneuvers chanted lengthy and crushing slogans to welcome our president's speech.

In his address during the ceremonies, the president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council expressed his pleasure at being among the zealous people of the province and the brave men of the Bakhtiari tribes. He referred to the struggle between the messengers of God and today's oppressors, noting: Two factors have always been at work in the victory of the Islamic Revolution under the leadership of the imam of the ummah. These are the people and divine help, which we have seen in various forms. Since the start of the imposed war, we have relied on these two factors and our dear people. Thanks to these two powers, we have managed to take the initiative in the conflict.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council also pointed to the Rahian-e Karbala' infantry column, which has left the province for the front. He declared: You know that the war has reached a very sensitive and decisive stage. The enemy did not think the Islamic

Republic would resist to the degree it has. The United States and the other powers repeated Iraq's mistake when they felt they would win the war in 3 days. They thought that an economic embargo, their presence in the Persian Gulf, and political maneuvers in the Security Council and elsewhere would enable them to pressure the Islamic Republic.

In another part of his speech, the president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council touched on America's secret policies and the presence of this superpower in the Persian Gulf. He noted: The forces of international oppression, led by the United States, are trying to put additional pressure on us by coming to the Persian Gulf. We, who have bravely withstood the pressure of international powers for 9 years, must solve this problem.

Montazeri Receives Group of Volunteers

LD271730 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT
27 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 27, IRNA—The future leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri received a group of volunteer forces (Basij) accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Rahmani, head of the Basij unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) in Qom Thursday.

Ayatollah Montazeri said that defense is a national issue and Islam has charged Muslims with the duty to defend Islam and Islamic values.

The ayatollah said that Islam and the Koran place a great emphasis on the necessity of combat and military readiness in all conditions for defending Islam and foiling the plots of the enemies of Islam.

Ayatollah Montazeri also said that Muslims should acquire all modern war equipments and learn to employ them to safeguard the interests of the Islamic states and Islam.

The ayatollah said that military mobilization should be generalized and not restricted to a special group.

The genuine Islamic values will be forgotten if a revolutionary country does not pay attention to moral values, the ayatollah stressed.

Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized that what is important for Iran is to safeguard the divine values, Islam and the Islamic revolution.

"We will be victorious if we are able to protect the Islamic values even if we are physically defeated" said the future leader of Iran.

Ayatollah Montazeri said that the needy people should not be ignored and division and discord should be avoided.

He said "If we set a moral example for others they will follow us" and in this way the revolution can be exported.

Confers With Finance Minister

LD290950 Tehran IRNA in English 0748 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Qom, Nov. 29, IRNA—Minister of Economics and Financial Affairs, Mohammad Javad Irvani and his deputies conferred with Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri here Saturday and briefed him on the activities of the economics and Financial Affairs Ministry.

The Ayatollah praising service of the personnel of the ministry gave necessary guidelines on priorities in imports and exports.

Views Political Parties, Elections

LD291324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Interior Minister Mohtashemi together with a number of ministry under secretaries met yesterday with Ayatollah Montazeri to discuss the formation of Islamic parties and councils and interest-free loan facilities throughout the country.

At this meeting the deputy leader praised their efforts, saying: In connection with the law on political parties, in my view parties should be allowed within the framework of the regime, Islam, and the revolution. Therefore, anyone who has anything to say or any proposal about the affairs of the country and the revolution would be able to form a party or a society in order to express his opinion freely in accordance with regulations and legal restrictions and within the provisions safeguarding the revolution, its leadership, and the regime. Thus the enemies of the revolution and the regime and the opposition will have nothing to say against the revolution and the regime and will be unable to make slanderous remarks. He stated: If parties are allowed to form, there is no doubt that future elections to the Majlis will be welcomed by all and will be held with special enthusiasm.

Regarding the election to the Islamic councils of villages, the deputy leader said: These elections are good and beneficial. The mass media should explain their positive aspects to the people.

Tehran Comments on Soviet-U.S. INF Agreement

LD280047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1930 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Unattributed commentary: "On the Conclusion of the Arms Control Agreement Between the United States and the Soviet Union"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign affairs minister, left Geneva last Wednesday, following an agreement on the

removal of the medium-range missiles. On his arrival in Moscow, Shevardnadze described his talks with the U.S. officials as constructive and successful, and Shultz, who has gone from Geneva to Brussels, is supposed to visit the NATO headquarters to inform the NATO commanders of the agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union.

For several months the Western mass media has been spreading propaganda about the arms control talks between the United States and the Soviet Union. This is a rare change and development, unprecedented in Reagan's 7 years of presidency. U.S.-Soviet negotiations on the removal of the medium-range missiles are taking place at a time when Reagan's government is in its weakest position during his 7 years in the White House. The McFarlane scandal which added a new dimension, the harsh and unprecedented collapse of the New York stock market, and the defeat in the Persian Gulf have become a horrible nightmare for Reagan's government and the Republican Party, have caused great worry, and given rise to a serious conflict among administration officials in adopting a stand on internal and foreign policies.

The Republican Party on the one hand supposes that the Democrats do not have a chance of victory in the 1988 election. On the other hand, it has realized that the American people and also their Western allies are dissatisfied with the policies of Reagan's administration.

Reagan's policies, most important of which has been the increased military budget, caused the U.S. budget deficit to be the highest in the history of that country, to the extent that it shook the stock market. Based on this development, the Republican Party is trying to remove the deficiencies in Reagan's military policies in order to be successful in next year's presidential elections. As Reagan's policy has been strongly anti-Soviet during his 7 years in the presidency, the Republican Party is trying to modify this policy by raising the issue of arms control.

The clique ruling over the United States, in order to depict a peaceful face and using [word indistinct] as a winning card, first dismissed Caspar Weinberger from his position as secretary of defense so that later they could attribute any deficiency and problems to him and make him the scapegoat. Then they took the path of compromise with Moscow, and in order to reach an arms control agreement with that country, they exhibited extreme softness and flexibility. The Republican Party leaders know very well that without reaching an arms control agreement, no success can be envisioned because the policies and the strategy of the U.S. militarist wing have left many evil side effects during the 7 years of Reagan's tenure.

Nevertheless, one should not expect much from such agreements because first, the recent agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union includes only 4 percent of the total nuclear weapons of the two sides; the

two countries still have access to huge arsenals of nuclear missiles which, if used, would destroy human civilization. Second, there is no guarantee that the two superpowers will implement the articles of the agreement one by one. Certainly, the recent agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union will not be more important than the SALT I and SALT II treaties and its fate will be no better than those treaties. Basically, the superpowers have no inclination to disarm because for them disarmament means the end of the power, the end of their domination. They need arms to preserve their domination and power in the world. Sometimes the superpowers sometimes, like now, undertake arms control agreements as more of a tactical measure than a sincere intent to control nuclear weapons and complete disarmament.

Tehran Notes 'Failure' of DRA Grand Assembly
LD291515 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1112 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Political commentary: "The Ruling Regime in Kabul and Yet Another Play"]

[Text] Following measures proposed for the political solution to the Afghanistan problem, the regime ruling in Kabul announced the convening today of the Grand Assembly, or the traditional gathering of the tribal chiefs of Afghanistan. The Kabul authorities also announced that this traditional gathering will discuss and approve the Constitution proposed by the regime.

It must be remembered that the Kabul regime, after facing repeated defeats on the battlefields from the Afghan mujahidin, has in recent years—specifically since the ascendancy of Najibullah, the former head of the security organization of that country—resorted to a number of measures. It terms them a political solution to the Afghan problem. In these measures the Kabul regime has set up several projects, such as the establishment of a national unity government, a 6-month ceasefire—which has been extended several times—national reconciliation, the democratization of political life in Afghanistan, the proposal to give top positions in some ministries to other parties, and finally the drafting of the Constitution to be approved by the Grand Assembly, the traditional tribal assembly of Afghanistan.

With due regard to the domestic problems of Afghanistan and to the statements of political observers and news agencies reports, it seems that the Kabul regime has so far met with defeat in implementing all its previous projects.

One can refer to the nonparticipation of various mujahidin groups in the national unity project, and the failure of the regime's plan regarding the return of Afghan refugees to Afghanistan, which was to be implemented within the framework of national reconciliation.

The failure of the refugees plan was so obvious that even the official magazine *Pravda* [as heard], in a write-up on this project, said that only 60,000 Afghan refugees joined this project. As there are over 3 million Afghan refugees, this is yet another confirmation of the plan's failure.

The preparation of the draft Constitution and its implementation will enable Najibullah to become president for another 4 years. All the important state positions will then be held by the present Kabul regime, and Najibullah, who is president of republic, will also be supreme commander of the armed forces. As such, he is empowered to appoint the prime minister and control the judiciary, to declare war and emergency situations, and even to veto all decisions by parliament.

The implementation of this project will place all the sensitive positions of power in Afghanistan at the exclusive disposal of Najibullah. It seems unlikely that the Muslim mujahidin, who have adopted a policy of confronting the Kabul regime in order to force a political solution to the Afghan problem, will take part in this project at this time.

Meanwhile, the convening of the Grand Assembly—the traditional assembly consisting of the tribal chiefs set up by the Kabul rulers to confirm and approve their Constitution—must be regarded as another example of the regime's failures. In this new measure Najibullah, the head of the Kabul regime, mindful of his experience with the tribes—particularly when he was in charge of the security organization—intends to use the Grand Assembly and its publicity to abuse the people's respect for this traditional institution and to use it for his own objectives.

One point worthy of mention is this: The Afghan regime has once again resorted to convening the Grand assembly; however, it is faced with defeat because of the refusal of the tribal chiefs and shaykhs who are at war with this regime to cooperate. It is natural that on this occasion too, the shaykhs and tribal chiefs will not participate in this assembly. If this assembly does take place, it will include a number of the regime's own lackeys.

According to the latest news reports from Afghanistan, the convening of this assembly has failed to meet with the approval of the Afghan mujahidin. They have also fired rockets during the assembly; the explosions from these rockets disrupted the assembly.

FRG Official, Ahani Discuss Genscher Visit
LD290940 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov 29, IRNA—Visiting Dr Fiedler envoy of the West German foreign minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher here Saturday briefed Iranian Foreign

Ministry Director General in charge of the Euro-American Affairs Department 'Ali Ahani on Genscher's last week visit to Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. He outlined his country's stance towards Middle East issues and Iraq-Iran war.

Ahani commented on good relations between Iran and West Germany and on Iran's concern about issues relevant to the Persian Gulf region and the Iraqi imposed war.

Ahani expressed an appreciation to the West German Government for having singled out Iraq as the initiator of the Iraq-Iran war, and said a continued diplomatic motion of the sort can help further stabilize relations between Iran and West Germany.

The two sides also discussed relations between European economic community and the Persian Gulf states, Amman summit conference, and issues pertaining to the Arab world and the Zionist regime.

The German envoy arrived here Friday night carrying a message from Genscher for his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Body of FRG Engineer Killed 17 Nov Flown Home
LD280932 Tehran IRNA in English 0718 GMT
28 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 28, IRNA—The body of West German engineer Joregen Friedrich died [as received] in Nov. 17 Iraqi attack on Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant, was flown home on board an Iran Air jumbo jet, Saturday morning.

A ceremony was held at state pavilion at Tehran's Mehrabad international airport with officials from the atomic energy organisation of Iran, Foreign Ministry and West German ambassador to Tehran Armin Freitag. The guard of honour paid tribute to Friedrich.

The West German and a number of Iranians working at the plant were martyred in the Iraqi raid which was carried out in defiance of international laws and regulations.

Naval Source Says Kuwaiti Ship Flew FRG Flag
LD291846 Tehran IRNA in English 1833 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 29, IRNA—The Kuwaiti ship 'Al-Jathatheel' disguised as Romanian vessel 'Dacia' which was hit by speed boats last Thursday was seen flying the West Germany Flag, said an informed source of the Iranian Navy here Sunday.

He said that the Iranian naval vessels which observed 'Al-Jathatheel' in the Persian Gulf, reported that the West German flag could be seen hoisted on the ship on Thursday.

The Kuwaiti Government's forging the name of a Romanian company on its ship, and its illegal flying of West German flag has created a commotion in shipping circles, which are angered at the unlawful Kuwaiti measures.

The Romanian company has protested to the Kuwaiti forgery and filed a suit against the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) which owns the 'Al-Jathatheel.'

It is expected that the West German Government would also protest the illegal Kuwaiti action.

Finnish Official Meets With Foreign Minister
NC280654 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] The Finnish political deputy foreign minister, who is currently on a visit to Tehran, met our foreign minister, Mr Velayati, last night. He called his visit to Iran and his meetings with our country's officials positive. The Finnish official also conveyed the Finnish foreign minister's message and invitation to the Iranian foreign minister to visit Finland.

For his part, our foreign minister referred to his meeting with the Finnish foreign minister during the recent UN General Assembly session, and deemed it to be positive. He said: Due to the similarity of the two countries' foreign policies, particularly on the independence of our respective foreign policies, the outlook for the further expansion of bilateral ties seems positive.

Defense Minister on Advanced Missile Production
LD291839 Tehran IRNA in English 1812 GMT
29 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 29, IRNA—Iran has entered production of advanced missiles, disclosed Defence Minister Brigadier-General Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali here today. "Thanks to our committed specialists Iran is manufacturing two types of advanced missiles", he added.

The minister said new plans are also under way to expand defence industries which will greatly reduce Iran's need for foreign sources. "Production of mortar launchers and shells in the current year is a proof of this claim", he added.

Asked whether production of arms by the defence industries would meet needs of the millions-strong Iranian combatants at war fronts, Jalali said necessary preparations have been made in this regard and that all light weaponry together with munitions are manufactured inside the country. More over "We replenish part of our

arms needs by booties taken from the Iraqi enemy at war fronts", he said adding we have no shortages of arms and other things needed in future operations.

On coordination among Defence, IRGC and Construction Jihad Ministries in the field of arms manufacture, the minister said the 60-year old experience of the defence industries is at the disposal of the IRGC. He added, captured weapons are easily duplicated and their munitions manufactured by these industries, while IRGC plants manufacture vessels needed by both the Army and IRGC naval units.

On implications of an economic and arms embargo against Iran by big powers and their allies, Jalali said "We are fully prepared for such circumstances and that despite a virtual embargo we have successfully conducted the Iraqi-imposed war for eight years.

On the Basij Week (Nov 26-Dec 2), the minister said, presence of the basij forces on the scene and their power, motivates all moves of the Islamic republic. "A basiji is not only a combatant who shoots a gun at war fronts, but it is a term applied to a major strata of the society who represent our power against the enemy."

Elsewhere, referring to the foreign military presence in the Persian Gulf, Jalali said presence of 80 foreign warships in the waterway is a testimony to the power of the Islamic Revolution.

"Their military expedition in the Persian Gulf was not aimed at escorting Kuwaiti tankers but was mainly to protect their vassal (Iraqi ruler) Saddam." The Amman Arab summit also followed the same line, Jalali said concluding "All these plots are doomed to defeat against the determination of the Iranian people."

New Missile Available in 'Next Few Days'
LD011201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] During a session of the state Scientific Research Council, chaired this morning by Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the country's latest scientific and research developments in various fields were reviewed, and a report was submitted on the successful testing of a new surface-to-surface ballistic missile manufactured by the defense industries organization. It was stressed that within the next few days the first series of these missiles will be placed at the disposal of the battlefronts.

Moreover, in the course of these sessions, the allocation of foreign currency to research institutes and universities for assisting the production of technical and battle equipment was approved. The same report says that after raising and discussing the issue of a shortage of funds and facilities for research in the country, it was agreed that a request should be submitted to the Islamic Majlis to increase the budget for this purpose next year [begins 21 March 1988].

Shirazi, Rafiqdust Observe Maneuvers in Ilam
LD301741 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Ilam, Nov. 30, IRNA—Over 100,000 people including tribesmen of this western province formed 50 divisions to hold grand maneuvers to mark the Basij week (Nov. 26- Dec.2), here today.

Imam Khomeyni's second representative at the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) Brigadier-General 'Ali Seyyed Shirazi who addressed the gathering said, massive nationwide mobilization by the people has increased the Iranian officials' duties to inflict relentless blows on the Iraqi enemy.

Victories of the Muslim combatants in "Nasr-3," "Nasr-4," "Nasr-8" and "Nasr-9" and chains of guerrilla operations deep inside Iraqi soil, in addition to the mounting border battles are new policies of the war officials, said Shirazi, adding that continuation of this policy will eventually bring the enemy to his knees.

In another development from Bakhtaran Province also in western Iran, over 100,000 volunteer forces of Mohammad (S.A.W) corps forming 120 brigades conducted maneuvers there, on the fifth day of the Basij week.

Also present at the maneuvers was minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust who said if Iranian people take one step back, global arrogance will take hundred steps forward.

The Iraqi enemy should not be given a respite, said the IRGC Minister adding "With the millions-strong participation of the people, grand operations would soon start at the war fronts," said the minister.

IRGC Forces Stage Exercises in Gulf 28 Nov
LD291405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] The Central News Unit Reports that the great Khandaq sea exercises were staged yesterday afternoon by the mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Bandar-e Lengeh and the central districts of Shir Kuh, Gav Bandeh and Baarak in the Persian Gulf. Personnel of the Gendarmerie battalion of Bandar-e Lengeh and fishermen with their motor launches participated in the exercises. In dozens of boats and frigates they staged patrol missions in the Gulf, attacked an imaginary enemy, and used RPG-7 battery units and modern military weapons to demonstrate their combat readiness to confront any possible aggression by the enemy.

Bombing of Iraqi Residential Areas Denied
LD301823 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA—A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) categorically refuted an Iraqi claim Monday that Iranian jet fighters had bombed residential areas in Ninawa Province, northern Iraq.

In fact, said the WIH spokesman, Iranian jet fighters heavily pounded Iraqi petrochemical installations in Al-Mawsil at 07:45 hours local time (04:15 GMT) today in retaliation for yesterday's Iraqi air raid on non-military centers in Iran.

The Iraqi petrochemical installations could be seen engulfed in huge flames and heavy columns of smoke, following the Iranian air attack, he said.

The spokesman said that photographs taken by Iranian pilots, of the bombed Al-Mawsil petrochemical installations completely disprove the Iraqi claim. The aerial snapshots will soon be put on display, he added.

The Iraqi regime has never confessed to the destruction of its eco-military installations but has always tried to misportray Iranian bombing of its eco-military installations as air attacks on residential areas, noted the spokesman.

In conclusion the spokesman said, the world is now well aware that the Iraqi regime is accustomed to telling lies.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraqi Plans Bomb Hamadan
LD301101 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA—Iraqi aircraft bombed a civilian area in Hamadan at 10:30 hours local time (07:00 GMT) Monday. There is no report yet on the damage or casualties.

Another Iraqi warplane which violated the airspace of Tehran Province at 11:35 hours local time (08:05 GMT) today was repelled.

Iraqi Petrochemical Plant Hit
LD301148 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT
30 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraq's petrochemical installations in Mawsil at 07:45 hours local time (03:45 GMT) Monday inflicting substantial damage on them in retaliation for Iraq's raids on two civilian areas in Khuzestan province on Sunday.

All Iranian planes returned to bases safely.

Kurds Attack 'Strategic' Heights

*LD301157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Nov 87*

[Communique issued by the High Command of the three branches of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; date and place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Following the pitiless slaughter of 200 inhabitants of the village of (Keymen) near Kirkuk in Iraq and the expulsion of other residents, the forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, along with Muslim mujahidin supporting the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, launched a destructive operation deep inside Iraq 3 days ago. They thus gave a crushing reply to the criminal rulers of Baghdad and gained more victories.

Iraqi Kurdish fighters succeeded in their operation, which was designed to strike at enemy forces stationed on the important and strategic (Zinosti) heights, including Heights 1600, 1769, 1895, 1920, and 2006, which are located behind the region of Mawat in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province. They ambushed the Ba'thist forces and, while destroying their positions, killed or wounded more than 650 Iraqi mercenaries.

The forces of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, along with Muslim mujahidin supporting the Supreme Assembly, also managed to set fire to all the enemy equipment, machinery, and weapons on these heights. In addition, they destroyed more than 11 bases and 2 headquarters of the Iraqi forces. They inflicted heavy damage on the enemy. In the course of this victorious action, the men of the destroyed Iraqi Armed Forces units stationed there were captured by Iraqi Kurdish warriors. They were later transferred behind the lines together with dozens of light and heavy weapons and other equipment seized as booty.

Having shown their combat strength by dealing blows to the forces of the 'Aflaqi regime in Baghdad at various points inside Iraq, and inflicting other serious casualties and damage on the enemy, the units involved in the operation returned to their bases unharmed.

Communique No 3,036

*LD301759 Tehran IRNA in English 1651 GMT
30 Nov 87*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 30 IRNA—Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed Iraqi petrochemical installations in Al-Mawsil, northern Iraq, at 07:45 hours local time (04:15 GMT) Monday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy and returning safely to bases.

Announcing the above, the 3036th Joint Staff Communique reported here Monday that the artillery fire of Iranian Naval Forces shelled and forced to flee two Iraqi vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway, at the northern tip of the Persian Gulf Sunday.

An unidentified foreign vessel attempting to approach Iranian oil rigs in the Persian Gulf Sunday was also forced to change its direction when Iranian Naval Forces fired warning shots at it, it added.

At least five Iraqi soldiers were killed and 15 enemy gun emplacements, two key observation posts, two trucks and a munitions dump were destroyed in the southern fronts in artillery duels with Iranian ground and Gendarmerie forces Sunday.

Iranian patrol convoys continued to inflict effective blows on Iraqi troops throughout the southern and western fronts Sunday, said the communique.

A number of Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Helaleh and Qasr-e Shirin, western sector, Sunday sustained several casualties and were forced to flee under Iranian artillery fire.

In Eynkhosh, southern fronts, Iranian artillery fire checked movements of Iraqi motorized units and inflicted heavy losses on enemy armoured units yesterday.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued throughout the battlefields Sunday raging somewhat more heavily in Hajj 'Umrān and Zayd theaters, northwestern and southern sectors, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Troops Hit in Sumar

*LD011041 Tehran IRNA in English 1027 GMT
1 Dec 87*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 1, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters struck Iraq's troop concentration sites and fortifications in Sumar, central front, and in Nasr-9 operational region, Hajj 'Umrān region, at 11:00 and 11:15 hours local time (07:30, 07:45 GMT) Tuesday, inflicting heavy damage on the enemy.

All the aircraft returned home safely.

Iraqi Losses in 'Nasr-8' Zone

*LD011203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 1 Dec 87*

[Text] The General Staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] announces: In the wake of the victories achieved by the corps of Islam in the "Nasr-8" operational sector, the defeated army of Iraq's Ba'thist-Zionist regime launched a counterattack this morning to recapture lost areas. However, thanks to

the vigilance and bravery of the IRGC Ground Forces, this counterattack was repulsed and the Zionist enemy, after suffering heavy losses and casualties, was forced to retreat.

During these operations, a battalion of the Iraqi 39th Infantry Brigade was completely destroyed and the 73d and 74th Battalions and a commando battalion of the 44th Division received heavy losses of nearly 40 percent. The victorious fighters of Islam also killed or wounded hundreds of Zionist enemy troops and captured a number of them, including two officers. Intense heavy artillery fire by the IRGC Ground Forces also completely destroyed several heavy enemy weapons, including one Katyusha and one 130mm gun, and set ablaze several ammunition depots.

Nepal

Displaced Persons Issue Discussed With India

BK241410 Kathmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 14 Nov 87 pp 1, 7

[Text] Kathmandu, Nov 13—When asked about the people of Nepalese origin coming to Nepal due to eviction and displacement from parts of India, spokesman of the Ministry of Home Affairs said his majesty's Government of Nepal has already taken up this matter through the proper channels with the Government of India. His majesty's Government of Nepal is concerned about this situation.

From information available at present, from one border point only, over 6,000 (six thousand) displaced persons have entered into Nepal. Most of these displaced people are not seasonal workers but have resided in India over decades.

His majesty's Government of Nepal wishes to see this issue tackled promptly and hopes that people of Nepalese origin are rehabilitated and protected by law in India as early as possible.

Foreign Minister To Visit Japan 8 Dec

OW271129 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Kathmandu, Nov. 27 KYODO—Nepalese Foreign Minister Sailendra Kumar Upadhyaya will pay an official visit to Japan, beginning December 8, at the invitation of his Japanese counterpart Sosuke Uno, government officials said here Friday.

During the week-long visit, Upadhyaya will confer with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, Foreign Minister Uno and other high officials on matters of bilateral interest.

The Nepalese foreign minister will also call on members of the Japanese imperial family.

The visit, which will mark the first high-level contact between Nepal and Japan since Takeshita formed a new government on November 6, will assume high significance, the officials said.

Pakistan

Reportage on 30 Nov Provincial Elections

Radio Reports 2 Killed

BK301648 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Nov 87

[Text] Brisk and orderly polling took place in the local elections of all four provinces today. Although the polling was to end at 1600 in Punjab and at 1700 in Sind, NWFP, and Baluchistan, voters who were still present at the polling stations at the end of this time were allowed to cast their votes.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq inspected a polling station in (Barakor) village near Islamabad and another at Rahmatabad in Rawalpindi. He visited all three polling booths in (Barakor) and inspected the polling arrangements in force there. He talked with polling officials and voters and expressed satisfaction with the arrangements made for the elections. He also talked with candidates contesting the elections at the Rahmatabad polling station. He asked them to wholeheartedly accept the verdict of the people and to work with full dedication to solve their local problems. Giving his impressions to newsmen, the president expressed his complete satisfaction with the polling arrangements. He said the enthusiasm of the people to exercise their right of franchise is a good omen for strengthening democracy in the country. The president referred to local elections in the past, the referendum, and the general elections of 1985. He described the atmosphere of the current elections as much better, which reflects the progress made toward consolidating the country's democratic institutions.

Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab chief minister, toured several polling stations in Jhelum, Multan, Muzaffargarh, Bahawalpur, and Faisalabad Districts to inspect polling. Punjab election authority chairman Justice Mahbub Ahmed told Radio Pakistan's Lahore correspondent this evening that polling for the local elections was held peacefully in the province. He said that local elections generally have been peaceful and orderly. He added that there has been no report of any major untoward incident and that the voter turnout was very large.

Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, the Sind chief minister, reported that the polling was held peacefully throughout the province and that a large number of people participated in the elections with great enthusiasm. He made this announcement to newsmen after visiting the election cell and the provincial election authority office this afternoon. The chief minister also toured certain polling stations in Karachi and expressed satisfaction with the voter turnout there. Responding to a question, he

asserted that the present democratic government has provided the people with an opportunity to elect their representatives in a free and fair manner. He said that there have been no reports of vote rigging from any quarters.

The NWFP chief minister, Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan, cast his vote at his native village near Peshawar. In an interview with Radio Pakistan's Peshawar correspondent, he said that barring a few sporadic incidents, there have been no reports of any untoward events anywhere in the province.

The Baluchistan chief minister, Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan, inspected several polling stations in Quetta, Pishin, and Mastung.

After visiting several polling stations in rural and urban areas, Radio Pakistan correspondents throughout the country reported that a large number of people had thronged polling stations to cast their votes. The counting of votes began immediately after polling had concluded in all four provinces. Unofficial results will be available after the votes have been counted, which is being done in the presence of the candidates and their agents. The polling was generally held in a peaceful and orderly manner; however, reports of sporadic incidents have been received from certain places.

A press note issued by the commissioner of Karachi this evening says that polling was brisk at all polling stations today. However, a major incident has been reported from the municipal committee, east zone, in Korangi area where two persons were killed and one was injured in clashes between two candidates and their supporters. The police have arrested four persons connected with the incident. No report of any major incident of law and order has been received from any other polling station.

16 Killed in Clashes

BK010321 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Dec 87

[Text] Latest reports from Pakistan say 16 people were killed and several injured in clashes between rival supporters during elections to local bodies held yesterday. In Karachi, three persons were killed while in Faysalabad, three others died in poll violence. Thirty-four persons were injured in Dadu District of Sind Province and in Quetta. Poll violence has also been reported from North West Frontier Province bordering Afghanistan and from Multan, Sahiwal, and Sialkot Districts. Gun battles have occurred in several towns and cities throughout the country, including Lahore and Rawalpindi.

The elections, first in Pakistan since martial law was lifted 2 years ago, are being held on a nonparty basis. Members of all political parties were allowed to contest in their individual capacity.

Bhutto Charges 'Fraud'

BK011057 Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT
1 Dec 87

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 1 (AFP)—Candidates backed by the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (PML) have taken an overall lead in local polls as opposition candidates charged election irregularities in several places, press reports said here Tuesday.

PML secretary general and local bodies minister, Iqbal Ahmad Khan, said the results of Monday's polls were a "clear cut vote of no confidence" in the opposition parties who had claimed to be "stalwarts of democracy."

Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) charged the government with fraud and called for fresh polls in the Sanghar and Shahdadpur areas of her home province of Sind. Miss Bhutto, in a press statement, singled out these two areas, but did not mention any others.

The government said the polls were held in a "free and fair manner," adding that any voting irregularities had been reported to the authorities.

At least 18 people were reported killed and more than 100 injured in election violence across the country Monday.

Official sources said police arrested scores of pro-government candidates and their supporters as well as opposition supporters.

The polls, the first after martial law was lifted two years ago, were open to party workers and activists but were not contested on a party basis. The use of party slogans and flags was banned during the one-month campaign.

Some 3.5 million candidates were contesting more than 60,000 seats for rural and urban councils. Officials said some 10,000 candidates, mostly backed by the PML, had been elected unopposed.

Press reports, based on unofficial results, said the PML had taken the lead in the populous and politically important Punjab Province.

In the country's political capital, Lahore, the PML took 19 out of 20 seats, official sources said, adding that PML-backed candidates had won in almost all major cities in Punjab.

In North West Frontier Province (NWFP), PPP-backed candidates were doing well, press reports said. In Peshawar city, the PPP won nine seats against the PML's three while 14 seats went to independents.

Political observers here said many independent candidates might later join the PML.

Press reports said the pro-Soviet Awami National Party led by Abdul Wali Khan which claims the NWFP as its stronghold, failed to win any seats in Peshawar and had put up a poor performance in the countryside.

In Beluchistan, the majority of 3,500 seats uncontested went to PML candidates, official sources said.

The PPP faced tough opposition in its Sind Province stronghold at the hands of the newly created Mujahir Qaumi Movement (MQM), which took 40 out of 60 seats in Hyderabad, although the PPP did well as expected in other Sind towns and villages. The MQM, set up to press demands for aid and jobs for the Mujahirs, people who came to Pakistan from India on independence in 1947, also did well in Karachi, the country's largest city.

Observers put voter turnout in Sind at between 40 and 50 percent and at about 60 percent in Punjab.

Political analysts said the PML's victory was due to a massive socio-economic development programme launched by the government of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and to better national organisation than the opposition.

They added that despite some cases of voting irregularities the polls would boost the confidence of Mr. Junejo's government which was elected in December 1985. Those polls were boycotted by the 10-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, of which the PPP is a major component.

Reportage on Visit of Jordan's Al-Masri

Delivers Husayn Message

JN281843 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Islamabad—His Excellency President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan received a message from His Majesty King Husayn this evening. The message was conveyed by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri when his excellency the president received him today. The message contains the results achieved by the Arab summit conference which was held in Amman recently.

The foreign minister also conveyed his Majesty King Husayn's greetings and best wishes to his excellency the president of Pakistan. The Pakistani president praised the great results achieved by the conference.

Meets With Zain Noorani

BK290953 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Nov 87

[Text] Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, now on a brief visit to Pakistan, called on Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani in Islamabad today and discussed with him matters of mutual interest, regional issues, and the current situation in the Middle East.

Zain Noorani on Visit by USSR's Vorontsov BK251315 Karachi NAWA-I WAQT in Urdu 16 Nov 87 pp 1, 5

[Text] Islamabad, 15 Nov—Zain Noorani, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, will visit Pakistan soon for talks on Afghanistan. Their discussions will cover a timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and other matters of common interest. The Soviet deputy foreign minister's trip will take place either before or a few days after the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Washington on 7 December.

According to Zain Noorani, the international community is convinced that the solution to the Afghan problem lies in the withdrawal of Soviet troops. He added that Pakistan wants, and will work for, a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the matter.

Speaking at the airport on his return to Islamabad this morning after attending the UN General Assembly session, Zain Noorani said the Kabul Government's idea of national reconciliation has been rejected by Afghan refugees and people inside Afghanistan. He explained that it has made no impression on the minds of the Afghans. Zain Noorani pointed out that the results of the General Assembly debate on the issue are a clear signal to the USSR that its own interests, as well as those of Pakistan, would be served if the Soviets were to offer the shortest possible timeframe for the withdrawal of their troops from Afghanistan. He emphasized that the timetable for the pullout of Soviet troops must be less than a year; otherwise, the objective of the UN General Assembly resolution will not be met. Zain Noorani explained that on instructions from Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, the Foreign Office will do its best to find a negotiated solution to the Afghan problem so the 3 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan may return home.

As for his talks with Diego Cordovez, the UN secretary general's personal representative, Zain Noorani said they explored the possibility of accelerating the second aspect of the process for an interim government in Afghanistan. In addition, they studied how Pakistan and the United Nations can help the Afghans reach a settlement on this. He said he made it clear to Cordovez that while working for the creation of an interim government in Afghanistan, they should not lose sight of the question of a timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. After all, both matters require attention.

On his way back home, Zain Noorani granted an interview to a Dutch journalist at Amsterdam Airport. He told the reporter that 123 countries have reiterated their call for a Soviet pullout from Afghanistan despite the national reconciliation program raised by the Soviet and Kabul governments. He explained that Pakistan has no desire to interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs. However, as a neighbor, its concern over developments in that country is only natural. Answering a question on the

lack of progress at the last round of negotiations in Geneva, he said Pakistan had very reluctantly agreed to an 8-month, instead of a 7-month, timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops. The other side, though, was not at all willing to lower the withdrawal time from 16 months. Therefore, Islamabad informed Cordovez of its opposition to any sort of bargaining that would resemble an auction, for such a major issue as this can be resolved only through sincere and positive action.

UN's Cordovez To Visit Pakistan in December
BK271026 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The personal representative of the UN Secretary General, Mr Diego Cordovez, is to visit Pakistan and Kabul in the 3d week of next month to prepare for the next round of proximity talks on Afghanistan in Geneva. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that the Pakistan Government will extend every possible cooperation to him in pursuit of an early political settlement of the Afghanistan question. The spokesman hoped that the next round of proximity talks at Geneva will be a final one at which it would be possible to arrive at an agreement on timeframe for withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan.

In reply to a question on whether or not the Afghan question is likely to come up at next month's summit in Washington between President Reagan and the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, the spokesman said both superpowers are designated guarantors of a settlement and it is appropriate and natural that they should discuss the question. On setting up of a government in Kabul comprising various bodies, the spokesman said that Pakistan has accepted in principle that this kind of government will restore harmony in Afghanistan. The spokesman said the so-called Loya Jirgah [Grand Assembly] convened by the Kabul administration, established with the encouragement of a foreign power, will neither be competent enough to give any decision nor will its decisions be acceptable in finding a solution to the Afghanistan problem.

Spanish King, Queen Stop Over in Karachi
BK251532 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia of Spain were accorded a very warm send-off when they left for Madrid after a brief stopover in Karachi on their way back home from Kathmandu today. They were seen off by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. Sind Chief Minister Syed Ghaus Ali Shah and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani were also present at the airport. During his stay, the Spanish king exchanged views with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on matters of mutual interest. The president has now returned to Rawalpindi.

Sri Lanka

AFP: More Indian Troops, Doctors Arrive
BK011012 Hong Kong AFP in English 0948 GMT
1 Dec 87

[Text] Colombo, Dec 1 (AFP)—India has poured more troops and doctors into Sri Lanka as fighting between Indian soldiers and Tamil guerrillas escalated after a week's lull, official sources here said Tuesday. At least 10,000 more soldiers were deployed in Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern Provinces last week, boosting the strength of Indian peace-keeping forces in the island to more than 30,000, the sources said. The Indian High Commission here has declined to discuss the number of Indian soldiers in Sri Lanka, but local press reports have placed the strength at two divisions or 40,000 soldiers.

In two days of fighting in the provinces, at least 35 people were killed, including 12 Indian soldiers and three Sri Lankan policemen. Police clamped a 24-hour curfew in Batticaloa Tuesday after gunmen of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the dominant Tamil militant group, attacked the district's main police station with rockets, mortars and small arms wounding an Indian soldier, two women and three children. A Sri Lankan military source said the attack lasted five hours but it was repulsed. Residents in Batticaloa contacted by telephone said that an LTTE fighter was killed and eight houses damaged in the exchange of fire. Barely 24 hours earlier, Indian troops raided a rebel jungle hideout in Batticaloa, killing eight guerrillas, the military source said.

Eleven Indians were killed Sunday while clearing a rebel minefield in Jaffna in the north, the highest Indian death toll in a single incident, the sources said. A few hours later Indian troops killed at least 12 LTTE fighters in a separate incident in the Jaffna peninsula. But the sources said Indians were largely in control of the peninsula, once the LTTE stronghold, except for pockets of rebel resistance in remote areas. They said indications were that rebels fleeing from the north had regrouped near the northern tip of the mainland and the Eastern Batticaloa District to wage a guerrilla war for a separate homeland from there.

Indian sources here said that the LTTE had used a 48-hour ceasefire, which was declared by New Delhi last week, to regroup and dig up hidden weapons, probably to prepare for a major showdown. The Indian Navy has extended a blockade of the Sri Lankan coast from the north to the eastern Ampara District amid reports that the LTTE was receiving clandestine arms supplies through the eastern coast. Indians have claimed that the LTTE arranged arms purchases in Singapore. About a week before the ceasefire, there was a lull in fighting with an almost de facto ceasefire when the LTTE freed 18 Indian soldiers held by them for more than five weeks, Indian sources said. The truce, which had been

announced to encourage a rebel arms surrender, ended eight days ago without results when the LTTE imposed demands on India to lay down arms.

India launched a major offensive against the LTTE October 10 when it rejected a New Delhi-backed peace plan aimed at ending four years of separatist violence in the island nation. About 285 Indian soldiers and more than 950 rebels have died in bitter clashes.

About 350 Indian civilian doctors and 60 military medical teams have been flown to Jaffna and were treating about 6,000 patients in the north of the Jaffna peninsula daily, the Indian High Commission said here Tuesday. A

spokesman for the commission said more than 300 tonnes of medical supplies have been brought in since India launched a major relief operation in the troubled district two weeks ago.

LTTE Kill 3; Police Station Attacked

*BK301009 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1000 GMT 30 Nov 87*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 30 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Three policemen out on a routine patrol at 0700 hours (local time) this morning at Muttur, about 20 kilometres south of the eastern port city of Trincomalee were killed when attacked by LTTE terrorists, official sources told *Lanka Puwath*. The gang of terrorists then attacked the Muttur police station. Police repulsed the attack.